

James 1.

Read the chapter. This letter was sent to all the Christian Jews that were dispersed. When we were going through our bankruptcy (spirit, soul and body), our young Pentecostal pastor would show up when we were crying or in a desperate emotional upheaval and he would open his Bible to James and start reading:

*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your **faith** works patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that you may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

Blessed is the man that endures temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him. Then he would read some scriptures on tribulations and trails in the next few Epistles. By then we were feeling pretty good and then he would just go back home. How much we appreciated his ministry to us. Who ever heard that we should count it all Joy in our temptations? ALL JOY?

A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. But when you're a kid in the Lord, you are completely double-minded but slowly you remember this word and stop talking with forked-tongue. We know that God cannot tempt us; we fall into this trap all by ourselves when we desire something so badly and we are enticed with our own greed, lust, or whatever. *Then when lust (etc.) has conceived, it brings forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, brings forth death.* Now is a good time to repent, which we did. We repented over repentance and then some more and we received the Blood of Jesus that was so freely shed and given for us. He brought us about by His own will with His Word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. So be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. This Word saves our souls. Jesus wants us to be doers of His word, not hearers only. We can read the Bible until we are blue in the face, but unless we do what Jesus did, our faith is in question. The doer will be blessed in his deed.

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridles not his tongue, but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

James 2.

Read the chapter. God has actually chosen *the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the Kingdom which He has promised to them that love Him? ...Rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?...But if you have respect to persons, you commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors. For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one poing, he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if you commit no adultery, yet if you kill, you are become a transgressor of the law.*

If a brother or a sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be warmed and filled; notwithstanding you give them not those things which are needful to the body; what does it profit? Faith like that is dead. There are so many who say they have faith but no works, therefore their faith is dead. Jesus' faith put Him on the cross for our works as He did. Also an example is Abraham that offered up Isaac to the Voice of God, and he was justified by his works. He was called a Friend of God. Rahab, the harlot, and her whole family, were saved when she received the messengers, and had sent them out another way. *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so **faith without works is dead also.*** That's awesome.

James 3.

Read the chapter. We must not rashly or arrogantly reprove others. *If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.* **Psalm 101** *Whoso privately slanders his neighbour, him will I cut off:* The tongue is a little member, and boasts great things and is a fire, a world of iniquity, because it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. Animals and fowl, serpents, and sea animals can be tamed but the tongue can no man tame. It is full of poison. We bless the Father with it and we curse men which are made after the similitude of God. Why do we do it?

So if you have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This is sensual and devilish and therefore it is confusion and every evil work.

But wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

Time to say to the **Advocate JESUS**, who is standing before the Throne of the Father, saying ***My blood is sufficient for his/her sins, IT IS FINISHED***, PLEASE FORGIVE ME and I love you, Lord.

James 4.

Read the chapter.

Did you know, brethren, that to be friends with the world is not to your benefit? It is enmity (hostility) with God. The world is enmity with God and if you are friends with the world system and not spiritual and living in the Spirit, the Kingdom of God (He dwells in you) you are at war with God. So **James 3** living in envy and strife makes you an enemy of God.

But God gives **GRACE** to the humble. *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh (near) to you...Speak not evil of another, brethren. He that speaks evil of his brother, and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law: but if you judge the law, you art not a doer of the law, but a judge...who are you that judges another?*

James 5.

Read the chapter. *Go to now, you rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. You have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, cry: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of the Sabbath. You have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; you have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and killed the just; and he does not resist you.*

Be patient, therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Just like a farmer waits for his seed to bring forth, and he receives the early and the latter rain, you are to be patient also, establish your hearts: **FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD DRAWS NEAR.**

...If any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? Let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord.

...Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converts the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.