

# JAMES CHAPTER 3-5

## EXHORTATION FOR FAITHFUL LIVING IN TRYING TIMES



# JAMES

**James's conversion gives testimony to the overwhelming power that came from being a witness of Jesus' resurrection: James turned from being a skeptic to a leader in the church based on his meeting the resurrected Christ.**

**James' speech at the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15:14-21 reveals his reliance on Scripture, his desire for peace within the church, his emphasis of grace over the law, and his care for Gentile believers, although he himself ministered almost exclusively to Jewish Christians.**

**James' humility—he never uses his position as Jesus' blood relative as a basis for authority. Rather, James portrays himself as a “servant” of Jesus, nothing more. In short, James was a gracious leader through whom the church was richly blessed.**

# OUTLINE OF JAMES 3-5

## James Chapter 3

- 1) The demonstration of faith that works
  - a) With taming the tongue (1-12)
- 2) Two kinds of wisdom
  - a) Wisdom shows us how to do good works (13)
  - b) Earthly wisdom. (14-16)
  - c) Heavenly wisdom. (17-18)

# OUTLINE OF JAMES 3-5

## James Chapter 4

3) The humble character of a living faith.

a) Pride Promotes Strife. (1-6)

b) Humility Cures Worldliness. (7-10)

c) Caution on judging. (11-12)

d) A humble dependence on God. (13-17)

# OUTLINE OF JAMES 3-5

## James Chapter 5

- e) Warning to Rich Oppressors (1-6)
- f) Patient & Persevering. (7-12)
- g) Meeting specific needs. (13-18)
- h) Helping a sinning brother. (19-20)

# JAMES 3

## 1. The demonstration of a living faith in controlling the tongue.

a. Greater accountability of teachers and the difficulty of not stumbling. (1-2)

Teachers are more accountable (towards God) on what they teach. Since we are not perfect, we all trouble with bridling what we say. Only way by spirit of God.

b. The power of the tongue. (3-6)

The tongue is small line part like a bridle or rudder, but it can direct or move great things. Words can cause trouble, like fights, bitterness and wars!

c. The difficulty of taming the tongue. (7-8)

Man can train and tame animals, but we cannot tame out tongue

d. The contradictory character of the tongue. (9-12)

We bless God with tongue but curse men that are created in God image. What come from out mouth is in our heart.

# JAMES 3

## Proverbs 10

19 When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, But he who restrains his lips is wise.

20 The tongue of the righteous is as choice silver, The heart of the wicked is worth little.

21 The lips of the righteous feed many, But fools die for lack of understanding.

## Proverbs 12

18 There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, But a good word makes it glad.

## Proverbs 16

27 A worthless man digs up evil, While his words are like scorching fire.

## Proverbs 18

21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

## Proverbs 26

18 Like a madman who throws Firebrands, arrows and death,

19 So is the man who deceives his neighbor, And says, "Was I not joking?"

20 For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down.

21 Like charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, So is a contentious man to kindle strife.

# JAMES 3

## **2. The demonstration of a living faith in the presence of wisdom.**

a. Wisdom shows us how to do good works (13)

Wisdom is show by our action/behavior.

b. The character of earthly wisdom. (14-16)

This wisdom is selfish and thinking of oneself 1st. The flesh. See Galatians 5:19-21

c. The character of heavenly wisdom. (17-18)

This wisdom shows fruit of the spirit also called fruit of righteousness. See Galatians 5:22-25 & Matthew 5:9



# JAMES 3

James 3

<sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first **pure**, then **peaceable**, **gentle**, reasonable, full of mercy and **good fruits**, unwavering, without hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup> And the seed whose **fruit** is righteousness is sown in peace by those **who make peace**.

Matthew 5

<sup>8</sup> “Blessed are the **pure** in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup> “Blessed are the **peacemakers**, for they shall be called sons of God.

Galatians 5

<sup>22</sup> But the **fruit** of the Spirit is love, joy, **peace**, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> **gentleness**, self-control; against such things there is no law.

# JAMES 4

## 3. The humble character of a living faith.

a. Reasons for strife in the Christian community. (1-3)

Selfishness causes strife like jealousy, envy, and lust which causes quarrels. Also, we ask with wrong and selfish motive. We need seek things that benefit all.

b. A rebuke of compromise and covetousness among Christians. (4-5)

We seek worldly pleasure or comfort not what God what us to be.

Matthew **24** “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

c. The solutions for strife: in humility, get right with God. (6-10)

The solution is to stay humble, be thankful and submit our will to God. This would mean to resist the worldly desires and the devil.

d. The solutions for strife: get right with other people. (11-12)

Do judge or speak against other blessing or why other have or have not. We don't know all on why but the one who can accurately judge is God.

# JAMES 4

James 4:10-11

<sup>10</sup> **Humble yourselves** in the presence of the Lord, and **He will exalt you**.

<sup>11</sup> Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge of *it*.

Matthew 3-5

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> “Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Matthew 7:1-2

“Do not judge so that you will not be judged. <sup>2</sup> For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

# JAMES 4

## 4. A humble dependence on God.

a. A caution against an attitude of independence from God. (13-16)

Yes, we can plan but God is one who directs or changes things so we should look for His will in our plans.

Proverbs 16

9 The mind of man plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

b. A challenge to live according to what we know in the Lord. (17)

Need to do what God calls us to do. If not, we are in sin.

# JAMES 5

## 5. A rebuke of the ungodly rich.

a. The rich and the illusion of wealth. (1-3)

If you one who is rich counting on riches for security, you are trusting on something that will not last. God is only one we should trust for security.

Matthew 6

<sup>19</sup> “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup> But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; <sup>21</sup> for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

b. The sins of the rich are condemned. (4-6)

If you take advantage of other to gain your wealth you will be accountable for this action.

# JAMES 5

## 6. **A call for patient endurance in light of the coming judgment.**

a. Imitate the patient endurance of the farmer. (7-8)

We need patients like the farmer to see Godly fruit in this world.

b. Practicing patient endurance among God's people. (9)

Our patient should also reflect to be shown with brethren/Gods people.

c. Following examples of patient endurance. (10-11)

We should use as example the prophets who are great examples of patients, and some did see the Lord's coming but awaited and endured patiently. Job is the epitome of patients/endurance with what he went through.

d. An exhortation in light of the coming judgment before Jesus. (12)

Make yes, yes and no, no and not promise things you cannot control lest be judge on.

# JAMES 5

## James 5

<sup>10</sup> As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful.

<sup>12</sup> But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but <sup>13</sup> your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

## Matthew 5

<sup>10</sup> "Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>33</sup> "Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, 'YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FALSE VOWS, BUT SHALL FULFILL YOUR VOWS TO THE LORD.' <sup>34</sup> But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup> or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING. <sup>36</sup> Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup> But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; anything beyond these is of evil.

# JAMES 5

## 7. Exhortations for Christians to care for one another.

a. How to meet needs arising among Christians. (13-14)

If anyone is suffering, pray for, if cheerful, praise, if sick pray over.

b. God's answer to the prayers of His people. (15-16)

God listens to prayer of the righteous and they are effective for healing.

c. Elijah as an example of answered prayer. (17-18)

Elijah is an example for righteous persons prayer. It did not rain for 3 ½ years then it did rain. Prayers answered since it gave glory to God and show to people, He is true God.

d. Helping a sinning brother. (19-20)

If there is a straying brother, we should work to turn back to true with a loving unjudging fashion.