



The Drone Series

A 52-Week Journey Through the Bible

Soaring through the pages of the Bible and embarking on an inspiring weekly journey from **Genesis to Revelation!** Dive into transformative insights that will uplift your spirit and deepen your understanding. Experience the power of scripture like never before!

We understand that spiritual growth can be a deeply personal journey, and we invite you to join us as we explore a different book of the Bible each week. It's a wonderful opportunity to reflect and find inspiration together. We encourage you to invite a friend to join us, whether in person or online, so we can support each other on this meaningful path.

Background Matters

God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

James considered himself a bond-slave (*doulos*). He was the property of God and of the One he could have called his "Brother," the Lord Jesus Christ. Obviously James recognized the deity of Christ by placing Him coequal with God. Furthermore, James used His full name, "the Lord Jesus Christ." "Jesus" means "Savior" and "Christ" is the Greek for "Messiah," the "Anointed." The eternal "Lord" became the Savior, "Jesus," and rose again as everlasting Sovereign, "Christ." The Lord of lords is King of kings (1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 17:14; 19:16).

The letter is addressed **to the 12 tribes scattered among the nations**. James was writing to the Jews dispersed from their homeland. The technical term "scattered" (*diaspora*) occurs in only two other places in the New Testament (John 7:35; 1 Peter 1:1). It refers to the Jews who were scattered among the Gentiles as their ancestors had been in the days of the Captivity. Though the 12 tribes of Israel are scattered, they are never lost. They are again listed at the close of biblical history in the Book of Revelation: Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin (Rev. 7:5–8; cf. 21:12).

The idiom, **Greetings**, common in thousands of ancient papyri letters, does not stand alone in any other New Testament letter. This is the Greek salutation much like the English "Hello" or "Welcome. It is interesting that James did not add the Jewish salutation "Peace" (*šālôm*). Paul usually included both the Greek and Hebrew greetings, which are translated "grace and peace."



James undoubtedly sought to maintain a crisp style and the simple elegance of good Greek even though he wrote to fellow Jews. Furthermore, the play on words between “greetings” (*chairein*) in James 1:1 and “joy” (*charan*) in verse 2 is thus more evident.

In order to attain Christian maturity and holy conduct it is essential to have a firm foundation. The believer must be able to stand with confidence. He dare not be pushed down by trials. He must not be pulled over by temptation. “Push, pull—stick, stick” must be his motto. How can such stamina be achieved? A believer can stand by pursuing, perceiving, and practicing the Word of God. Trials from without and temptations from within are no match for a Christian who stands in the truth from above.

Rejoice in diverse trials (1:2–12)

All too often trials prompt groanings and complaints. This kind of response does not contribute to Christian maturity. It only makes matters worse. Trials are not to be seen as tribulations but testings. A test is given to see if a student can pass, not pass out.¹

In this week's Drone Series, *we examine the book of James, which is attributed to the half-brother of our Lord. This text emphasizes the profound connection between life's trials and temptations and the development of patience. It is imperative to recognize the challenges we encounter, as they present opportunities to evaluate and strengthen our faith. These trials are instrumental in fostering patience, a significant attribute that can yield considerable benefits in various aspects of life.*

How do You Stand Under Pressure?

(Trials and Temptations)

James 1:1–18

Topics:

Believe, Desires, Doubt, Evil, God, Prayer, Temptation, Wealth

Study Guide 45 *This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your **growth in the Word**. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.*

¹ J. Ronald Blue, “James,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 819–820.



Open It, Mondays. Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1. *How would you respond to someone who tells you that good can come from the trials which you are experiencing?

Explore It, Tuesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. Who wrote this letter? (1:1)

3. To whom was this letter written? (1:1)

4. *What attitude did James tell people to exhibit when they are facing trials? (1:2)

5. *What is produced when our faith is tested? (1:3–4)

6. What is God's response when we ask for wisdom? (1:5)

7. What effect does doubt have on a person when he or she prays? (1:6–8)

8. What will eventually happen to the wealth of a rich person? (1:10–11)

Explore It, Wednesdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.



9. *What reward awaits the person who perseveres under trial? (1:12)

10. From where does temptation come? (1:13–15)

11. How does sin start and end? (1:13–15)

12. From where do all good and perfect gifts come? (1:16–17)

13. How did James describe God’s relationship with the people He created? (1:17–18)

14. What trials and difficulties have you experienced during your life?

15. Why does God allow people to go through trials and difficulties?

Get It Thursdays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

16. *What good has ever come out of a difficult situation in your life?

17. How does a person’s relationship with God change as he or she goes through trials and problems?

18. When do you find it hardest to pray?



19. With what doubts have you struggled concerning God and prayer?

20. How can doubting affect a person's prayer life?

21. How can a person who pursues wealth and riches be disappointed?

22. In what way have material possessions disappointed you once you possessed them?

Drive it Home, Fridays, keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

23. *How would you explain to a ten-year-old why a person does something wrong or evil?

24. What can a person do to stop an evil desire from becoming an actual evil act?

25. *What do you believe God is trying to teach you this week through the trials and situations you are experiencing?

Experiencing the Power of Scripture Like Never Before! 2025

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