

1. How is the writer identified (3)?

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2. How are the recipients addressed (3)?

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3. The first thing we have, beyond the writer and recipient protocol, is an exhortation to “count it all joy”. What are we told to count all joy? What verb are we to count all joy?

4. We see the reason for counting it joy is that a trial isn't the end, but the means to something else. First of all, what is the trial also called here?

5. What does that testing produce?

6. And patience isn't the end either, but it is an avenue to something else. What does such patience produce (3)?

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7. If we lack wisdom, what are we to do?

8. How can we expect God to respond (2)?

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9. But there is a stipulation in our asking. How must we ask (2)?

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10. What does God compare a doubter to?

JAMES 1

11. What is such a man called (2)?

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12. Who should glory in their exaltation, and why?

13. Who should glory in their humility, and why?

14. What is the rich man compared to, and in what way is he compared?

15. Who is blessed and why?

16. When will he receive that “crown of life?”

17. Who is this kind of crown promised to?

18. What can God not do?

19. What does God not do?

20. When is a person tempted (2)?

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21. Notice that sin and temptation are differentiated. When does temptation become a sin?

22. If sin is nurtured, what will it produce?

23. What comes from the Father of lights (2)?

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24. What quality do we read about in our Father here?

25. We read that He brought something forth by His own will/pleasure. What is it?

26. To what end?

27. Then we are challenged to “let” 3 things happen: one to be quick, two to be slow. What are they?

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28. Why are we to be this way?

29. What 2 things are we to lay aside?

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30. What are we to receive?

31. To what end?

32. How could we be deceiving ourselves?

33. What analogy refers to a hearer/reader but not a doer? Explain how the metaphor compares them.

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34. What is the Word called in v. 25?

35. Who is blessed here?

36. Whose religion is worthless?

37. What 3 things does God call pure and undefiled religion?

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Application

- One of the big themes of the book is patience/steadfastness. This is manifested through asking in faith, caring for those in need, keeping oneself unspotted, etc. If we look at our Christian life as a race, how is your endurance? Do you find yourself maintaining steadfastness, or are you in a cycle of sprinting full-on for God and then crashing, then starting to sprint again?
- Pray that the Lord would instill in you a hunger for steadfastness and the discipline to uphold it!

JAMES 2

1. The first 9 verses deal with a problem in the church of the day. What was that problem?

2. Describe the 2 people that are used in this exhortation.

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3. Where is the favored man invited to go?

4. Where is the unfavored man invited to go?

5. If you show partiality, what have you become?

6. What has God chosen the poor to be (2)?

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7. Does it sound here like the poor man has no favor with God?

8. What 3 things is the rich doing?

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9. What is the "royal law," and if we do it, what then?

10. What 2 things become of you showing partiality?

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11. Who is guilty of breaking the whole law?

12. How are we to speak and do?

13. Who will be judged without mercy?

14. What triumphs over that judgment?

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JAMES 2

15. Next, we have a comparison between 2 different “faiths”. Notice that this is not a comparison between 2 different recipients of your faith/trust; but rather, it compares 2 different working definitions of faith itself. What are these 2 categories of faith?
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 16. In the end there are also 2 categories in regards to those definitions of faith. One category is that of a “dead” faith, and the other is therefore that of a living faith. What kind of faith is a dead faith?
 17. Why is just believing there is 1 God not enough?
 18. How does Abraham demonstrate the right kind of faith?
 19. Where in Scripture is this found?
 20. What was Abraham called?
 21. How does this context clarify v. 24?
 22. What does this tell you about those who appear to be opponents to James and the believers there? What do you think they were teaching?
 23. How does Rahab demonstrate the right kind of faith?
 24. Where is this found in Scripture?
 25. Which kind of faith do you have? What in your life demonstrates it?
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26. When is the body dead?

27. When is faith dead (notice that with both “deaths,” the issue is separation. In honesty, death is separation)?

Application

- One way to understand the “works” portion of this text is to understand a standard of fruit-inspection. The fruit that is born out of our faith is action, and we can gauge the health of our faith by what is supernaturally (not contrived) flourishing from it. Do you see this fruit in your life?
- Pray that you would not show favoritism toward *anybody* within the body of Christ.
- Pray that the Lord would continue to increase obedience and faith in your life, and that fruit would pour out as a result!

1. What are many of us not to become? Why?

2. Who is a “perfect man?”

3. What 3 metaphors are used in relation to the tongue and what do they teach us?
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4. What is the tongue called here?

5. What can the tongue do for/to the whole body?

6. What can the tongue do for/to nature?

7. What sets it on fire?

8. What do all creatures of the earth have in common?

9. What can no man do? How does this relate to question 2?

10. What is the tongue full of?

11. Now we see the two-sidedness of the tongue. What initial duplicity do we see with the tongue?

12. What 2 metaphors are used in comparison with this fact and how?
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13. How is the wise and understanding man to demonstrate his wisdom and understanding?

14. How does a person lie against the truth?

15. In essence, we are told 7 qualities of wisdom that is not from above. What are they?

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16. Where will you find confusion and every evil thing?

17. Now we read 8 things that wisdom from above is. What are these 8 things?

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18. Take a moment and pray that our God will grant you grace that these 8 things be more and more an integral part of your life.

19. Now the fruit of righteousness is _____ by those who _____.

Application

- Does your tongue produce sweet or bitter water? Does it build up or tear down?
- Pray that you would not have a schizophrenic tongue, but rather one that is both a blessing to God and man!

JAMES 4

1. Where do fights come from?

 2. When was the last time you would say you were in a “fight,” and how do these verses relate?

 3. What does your desire for pleasure also do?

 4. For what 2 reasons do you not get what you want?
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 5. Friendship with the world = _____.
 6. What does a person who wants to be a friend of the world make himself?

 7. Now, if you are able, grab a concordance and find at least 2 scriptures where God calls Himself jealous. What is He jealous of?
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 8. Where in Proverbs 3 do we read about God resisting the proud?

 9. What 2 things (in order) are required for the devil to flee from you?
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 10. What does it take for God to draw near to you?

 11. What is the sinner to do?

 12. What is the double-minded man to do?

 13. When will God lift you up?
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14. Who speaks evil of the law and judges the law?

15. What do you become if you judge the law (2)?
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16. What is our Lawgiver able to do (since we are unable to do either, we should be so thankful we are not the judge!) (2)?
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17. What is wrong with just saying, “Tomorrow, we will go to that certain place and do that certain thing?”

18. What is our life compared to here and how?

19. What should we say instead?

20. What does God call evil here?

21. Have you made any plans lately without any consideration to what the will of the Lord is?

22. What is called sin here?

Application

- What has God told you to do lately?
- DO IT!!!!

1. In the first 6 verses, what are the rich called to do here?

2. Why (13)?

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3. At this moment, it may appear as if the rich man isn't quite so favored by God! Okay, no real question here... just something to think about! Notice also, it isn't just a broad spectrum rebuke against all rich, as if being rich wasn't the real problem; but rather, it is about what they did and/or didn't do with it.

4. What charges does God bring against the rich here?

5. What do you think that it means that the cry of the harvesters has reached the Lord of the Sabbath? Why do you think He is called "Lord of the Sabbath" here?

6. With knowledge of the end of men who so abuse others in their wealth, what are we told to do?

7. What metaphor is used here, and how does it compare to the situation?

8. Why are we told to be patient?

9. What else are we told to do in light of His soon return?

10. What could cause us to be condemned?

11. What is Jesus called in this verse, and where is He?

12. In what are the prophets to be an example to us?

13. Who else is used as an example and suffering and endurance here?

14. What do we consider those who endure?

15. With regards to Job, what is the Lord called here (2)?

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16. What could cause us to fall into judgment?

17. What are we to do to avoid such judgment?

18. What are we to do while suffering?

19. What are we to do while cheerful?

20. What are we to do while sick?

21. What are the responsibilities of the elders here?

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22. There are some that relate every sickness to sin (like Job's friends). If you look carefully, you will see in the way the sentences are worded here that it isn't always the case. What tells us that in the text?
23. What are we to do with our trespasses?
24. For what purpose?
25. What avails much (gets much done)?
26. How is Elijah an example of this?
27. In what way was Elijah like us?
28. How does Elijah's situation/comparison with our prayers pertain to the next statement about the sinning brother?
29. What are we told about the one who turns a sinner back from his ways (2)?
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Application

- Do you know anyone right now who has turned away from Jesus to error?
- Please pray for him/her right now! Let your faith bring you to action!