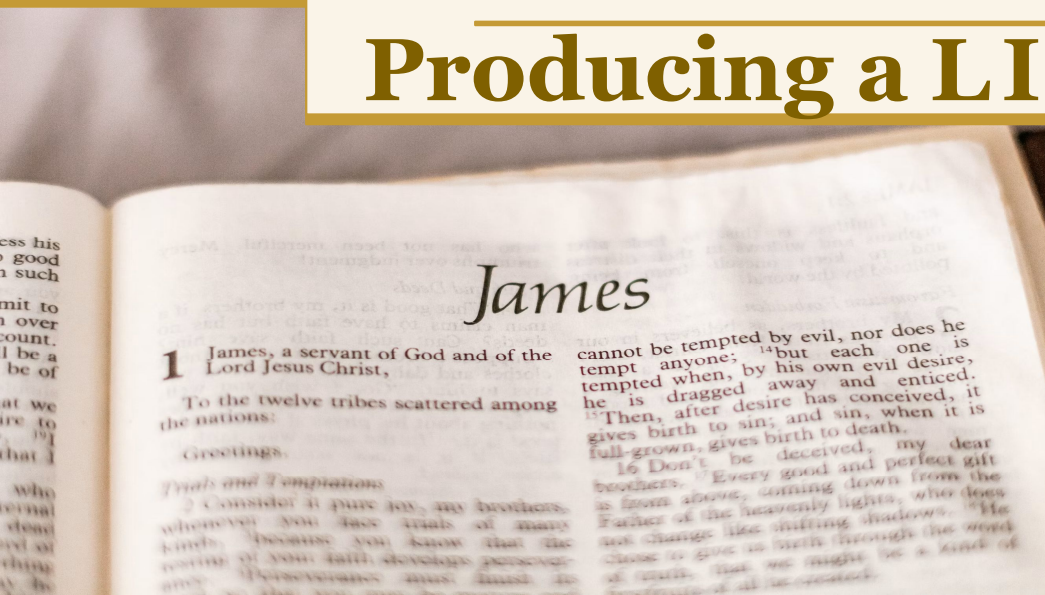




# THE BOOK OF JAMES

## Producing a **LIVING FAITH**



# Producing a LIVING Faith

(James 1:2-8)

*“by having a maturing faith”*

## Outline:

1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4
2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

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## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

“Consider it all joy” v. 2a

### 1) Consider

- ἠγάσασθε = to engage in an intellectual process, think, consider, regard – BDAG

- Aorist, middle, imperative

**Aorist** – a compl. action. a summation of the command.

**Middle** – the action is affecting the actor.

**Imperative** – a command to follow.

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

“Consider it all joy” v. 2a

1) Consider

Summary – The believer is commanded to have a certain regard for something.

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

“Consider it all joy” v. 2a

2) It all

A positive adjective – modifying the noun (joy) by communicating the extent of the consideration.

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

“Consider it all joy” v. 2a

3) Joy

$\chiαρὰν$  = simply means gladness... but it is resultative, w/implication of having a divine viewpoint.

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

A. Who:

➤ “my brethren” v. 2b

B. When:

➤ “whenever you encounter various trial” v.2c

# 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

## C. Why & What:

### 1) “knowing

- Universal principle believers should know.

### 2) Trials are a test of faith v. 3a

- Not a test of existence but of strength

### 3) Testing produces endurance v. 3b

- Endurance (ὑπομονή; ὑπο= under, μονή= to remain)

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

### C. Why & What:

- 1) “knowing
- 2) Trials are a test of faith v. 3a
- 3) Testing produces endurance v. 3b
- 4) Endurance is a spectrum v. 4a
  - “let” (ἐχέτω = to possess or contain)

### The two-sided coin of endurance:

- God – is actively producing endurance through faith testing trials.
- Believer – is passively producing endurance through enduring faith testing trials.

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

### C. Why & What:

- 1) “knowing
- 2) Trials are a test of faith v. 3a
- 3) Testing produces endurance v. 3b
- 4) Endurance is a spectrum v. 4a
- 5) Endurance is a process v. 4b
  - “that” (the purpose of letting endurance develop)
  - “perfect” = matured
  - “complete” = made whole
  - “lacking nothing” = finished product

## 1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4

### Summary/Application:

- Believers are to have a resulting perspective of gladness when faced with a trial.
- The reason:
  - 1) Trials test faith
  - 2) Testing produces endurance
  - 3) Endurance produces maturity.
- Our perspective of trials is everything  
(cf. Rom. 8:31-39)

## Outline:

1. The perspective of Joy vv. 2-4
2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

“If anyone lacks wisdom” v. 5a

- Wisdom (σοφίας) = The capacity to understand and function accordingly.
- This is basically Hebrew parallelism... counting it all joy = having wisdom
- Cf. Prov. 9:10; Ps. 14:1)
- To rephrase this:  
“if anyone is unable to count it all joy”

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

A. Overcoming the obstacle vv. 5-6:

1) Ask God v. 5b

God = Who gives openly and without shaming v. 5c

The promise = “it will be given to him.” v. 5d

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

### A. Overcoming the obstacle vv. 5-6:

#### 2) Ask in faith v. 6a

- Positive – ask in faith v. 6a
- Negative – without doubting v. 6b
- Illustration – simile metaphor v. 6c

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

B. Overcome by the obstacle vv. 7-8:

➤ The doubting one:

1) Should not expect wisdom

- A resultant joy from DVP v. 7

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

B. Overcome by the obstacle vv. 7-8:

➤ The doubting one:

1) Should not expect wisdom

2) Is double-minded v. 8a

- δίδυχος = δί – two or double, ψυχος – soul, spirit, life, mind.
- to be double-minded is to be directionless
- to be directionless is to be (to use a theological term: a sitting duck)

## 2. The perspective of wisdom vv. 5-8

B. Overcome by the obstacle vv. 7-8:

➤ The doubting one:

1) Should not expect wisdom

2) Is double-minded v. 8a

3) Is unstable in all their ways v. 8b

- unstable = not controlled... like a wave driven by the wind. (cf. Eph. 4:11-16)

## Application/Summary:

### ➤ A challenge for myself... shared with you:

- 1) “let the Holy Spirit search you out”
- 2) “humble yourself and do what God desires of His children”
- 3) “learn to worship God in a worthy manner”

## Application/Summary:

1) “let the Holy Spirit search you out”

What trials are you going through and how do you suppose God is using that trial in your life to reveal a weakness in your faith?

## Application/Summary:

2) “humble yourself and do what God desires of His children”

Is my unbelief (doubt) working against God’s maturing work in me?

## Application/Summary:

3) “learn to worship God in a worthy manner”

Often, the altar we offer ourselves on (Rom. 12:1) is functionally a surgery table. Getting off the table doesn't mean the surgery is complete.



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