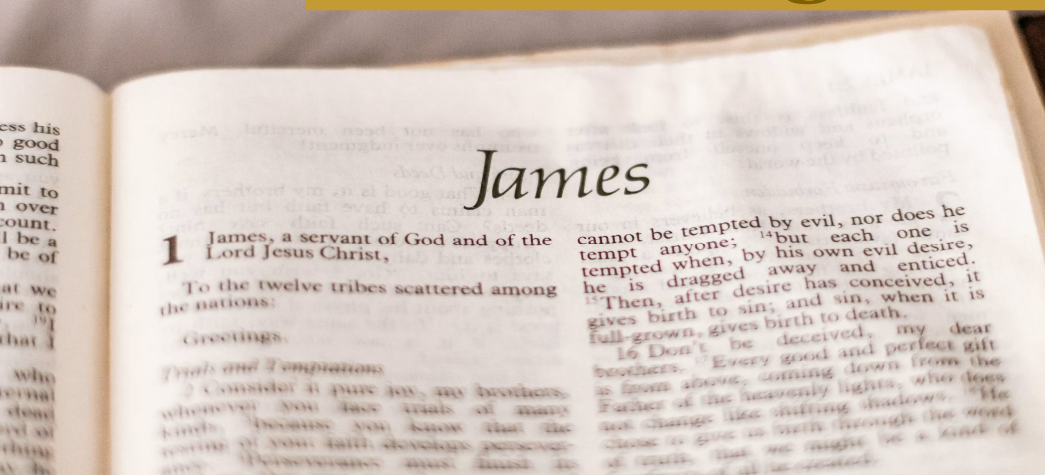




THE BOOK OF JAMES

Producing a **LIVING FAITH**



The κεφαλαια Structure of James:

Prologue – 1:1-18

Thematic Statement – 1:19-20

- 1) Swift to Hear 1:21-2:26
- 2) Slow to Speak 3:1-18
- 3) Slow to Wrath 4:1-5:18

Epilogue 5:19-20

REVIEW: “be quick to hear” –

- to have a doing faith 1:21-27
- to have an impartial faith 2:1-7

Producing a LIVING Faith Being “quick to hear”

(James 2:8-13)

“To have a justified faith”

Outline:

1. The Law vv. 8-11
2. The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13

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1. The Law vv. 8-11
2. The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13

1- The Law vv. 8-11 –

Observations:

- The law is good v. 8
 - Fulfilling the royal law is to do well v. 8
 - Royal Law = “love your neighbor as yourself”

1- The Law vv. 8-11 –

Observations:

- The law is good v. 8
- The law convicts v. 9
 - Partiality = sin
 - Sin = transgressor of the law

1- The Law vv. 8-11 –

Observations:

- The law is good v. 8
- The law convicts v. 9
- The law is one vv. 10-11
 - Transgressing one = guilty of whole v. 10
 - The law's authority v. 12

Outline:

1. The Law vv. 8-11
2. The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

- The sphere of judgment v. 12a
 - “so speak”
- James has already shown that what we hear leads to what we think and therefore say. Our speech (tongue! Cf. 3:8), therefore, is to be CONTROLLED by the word of God.

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

- The sphere of judgment v. 12a
 - “and do”
- Like speech, James has shown us that what we hear leads to what we think and speak, and this leads to what we DO. Our conduct, therefore, is to be CONTROLLED by the Spirit of God and the Word of God leading to the works of God (cf. Gal. 5:16-25)

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

- The subjects of judgment v. 12b
 - “as those” (Believer? Unbeliever? Both?)
- James was ONLY writing to believers. This exhortation has no value to unbelievers. Not because the substance of the exhortation is not valuable, but because the unbeliever can never do it.
 - 1) They are brethren (1:2, 16, 19; 2:1, 5, 14; 3:1, 10, 12; 5:12, 19)
 - 2) They are regenerated (1:18, 21)

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

- The subjects of judgment v. 12b
 - “who will be judged”
- There are 4 end-times judgments
 - 1) The Great White Throne (Rev. 20:11-15)
 - 2) The Bema-Seat of Christ
- While the believer has been justified in regard to the penalty of sin through faith in Christ, there remains a justification in regard to the “deeds done in the body.”

Observations:

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

➤ The subjects of judgment v. 12b

- “by the law of liberty”
 - The word = the mirror = the law of liberty
 - “the truth shall make you free” Jn. 8:32
 - “free from the law of sin and death.” Rom. 8:2
 - “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” 2 Cor. 3:17
 - “false brethren... to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus” Gal. 2:4; 6:2
 - “as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice” 1 Pet. 2:16

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

➤ The subjects of judgment v. 12b

- The Bema-Seat of Christ –

- 1) 1 Cor. 3:10-17

- 2) 2 Cor. 5:9-10

- 3) Rom. 14:10-12

- 4) Rev. 22:12

- Also note: Eph. 2:10

2- The Law of Liberty vv. 12-13 –

Observations:

➤ The standard of judgment v. 13

- No mercy in conduct = no mercy in judgment
- Mercy > Judgment

James is underlining the standard of judgment which is based on the mercy a believer shows to their brethren. This will be exemplified in the next section 2:14-26

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 sin(s) have I committed or continue to commit?
- How do I use my liberty in Christ?
- Do I walk by the flesh more often than the Spirit?

Application/Summary:

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

- Confess sin(s) and enjoy forgiveness and cleansing. (1 Jn. 1:9)
- “receive with meekness the implanted word”

Application/Summary:

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

- Understand the role of the word.
- Understand the doctrine of liberty.
- Understand the doctrine of love.
- Learn to walk by the Spirit.