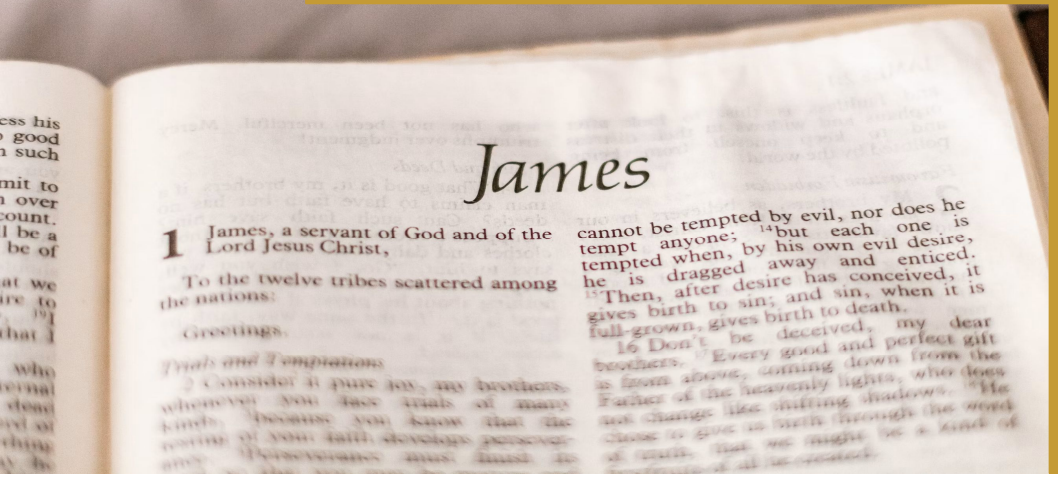




THE BOOK OF JAMES

Producing a LIVING FAITH





Producing a LIVING Faith

Being "slow to speak"

(James 5:19-20)

"The Ministry of Restoration"

Outline:

1. The wandering believer

2. The restoring believer

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1. The wandering believer

2. The restoring believer

1- The wandering believer –

A. Description of the wandering believer:

1) Believer

- James is talking to believers
  - "brethren"

- James is talking to believers about believers
  - "if anyone among you"

1- The wandering believer –

2) Wandered

- "wanders from the truth"
  - "wander" πλαναω = to go astray from a particular way.
  - "the truth" = the teachings of Christ administered through the Apostles and prophets (cf. Eph. 4).
  - Same word used of the wilderness wandering. They wandered because of worldliness, and unbelief.

1- The wandering believer –

3) Sinner

- Sin = to miss the mark, falls short.

- In context:
  - One who is a hearer (wander FROM THE TRUTH)

  - Not a doer (wandered… did not continue)

1- The wandering believer –

4) Sinful

- The restored wandering believer has “a multitude of sins covered.”

1- The wandering believer –

5) In danger of physical death

- Who is in danger?
  - One who has wandered from truth v. 19
  - One who is proud. Ch. 4
  - Uncontrolled tongue. Ch. 3
  - Earthly, sensual, demonic wisdom. Ch. 3
  - Envious and self-seeking. Ch. 3
  - Lustful and murderous. Ch. 4
  - Spiritual adulterers. Ch. 4
  - Evil. Ch. 4

1- The wandering believer –

5) In danger of physical death

- God is not going to take you home early:
  - If you sin once
  - If you sin twice
  - If you struggle with sin for many years
  - If you struggle with sin the rest of your life!

1- The wandering believer –



1- The wandering believer –

5) In danger of physical death

- The believer in danger of physical death is the one who has turned their back on God and have set themselves entirely against Him and filled with pride, selfish indulgence, and even THEN it is in the infinite wise mind of God whether He will take that child home.

1- The wandering believer –

5) In danger of physical death

- James is writing to believers who have done this. And he is warning them that should they continue the life of sin leads to death…

1- The wandering believer –

B. Prescription for the wandering believer:

1) Be humble and receive the grace of God
   - Review 4:6-10

2) Listen to fellow believers when shown truth.
   - The context shows that the wandering believer needs the support of their fellow brethren! (cf. 5:14-15)

Outline:

1. The wandering believer

2. The restoring believer

2- The restoring believer –

A. Description of the restoring believer:

1) Believer
   - "someone" v. 19

2) In truth (implied)
   - See 5:14-16; Gal. 6

2- The restoring believer –

A. Description of the restoring believer:

3) Turns a wandering believer back.

- How?
  - Reminding them of the truth.
  - Loving them (cf. 2 Tim. 2:24-26)

2- The restoring believer –

A. Description of the restoring believer:

4) A deliverer

- "will save a soul from death"

2- The restoring believer –

B. Prescription for the restoring believer:

- Know the truth!
- Follow the truth!
- Share the truth!
- Keep doing it!!
- Do not forget the power of prayer… (5:14-18)

Application/Summary:

1) Be quick to hear…

2) Be slow to speak…

3) Be slow to anger…