

## **Wednesday Night Bible Study**

**5-27-2020**

### **Introduction to James**

**James, the brother of Jesus, (Matthew 13:55) is the writer typically associated with this book. He was the leader of the Jerusalem council (Act 15). He authored this book to the twelve tribes of Israel or Jewish Christians that had been scattered abroad (1:1). James writes about practical principles and applying Godly wisdom with faith as one goes about life.**

#### **Scripture Reading: James 1:1-12**

**James begins with a greeting, noting that he is a servant of God and the Lord Jesus. He reminds his brothers in faith to do something that is not natural, but to remain joyful through various trials. The joy that is provided by faith in the Lord gives endurance that helps lead to maturity in Christian character. When those trials come one must look to the Lord for wisdom, which is not just acquired information, but practical principles with spiritual connotations. One must not doubt but ask in faith trusting that the Lord will provide (Proverbs 3:5-6). Both the poor and the rich will face trials, but both must learn to rely solely on the Lord. Just like a victory as an athlete or military leader, a person will receive the crown of life (eternal life) when they face trials leaning on the Lord (been approved or passed the test).**

**Describe someone who is joyful.**

**How do you go about focusing on the Savior instead of the circumstance?**

**What keeps you from asking the Lord for wisdom?**

#### **Scripture Reading: James 1:13-18**

**Temptations deal with a person's application of moral strength to resist sin. One cannot blame God for failure to resist temptations because those temptations do not come from God who is holy and has no part of sin. Giving in to temptations prevents people from experiencing the life that God has**

**intended and leads to death (desire, sin, and death; Genesis 3:6-22). God is good and His goodness never changes. He has given life to His church (followers of Jesus) through the Gospel of Jesus, so that they can go out and help plant more seeds of the Gospel while modeling Christ like character.**

**What temptations often lead you to sin?**

**Look at 1 Corinthians 10:13. How do we endure it?**

**What is the Gospel of Jesus and how to do you help plant seeds of its truth?**

**Scripture Reading: James 1:19-27**

**Servants of Christ should be good listeners and delightful doers. It is easy for people to become angry or have a poor attitude during a time of difficulty, but this should not be that way with God's church (do not grumble, Philippians 2:14). Get into God's word and let new attitudes of humility be displayed. One must not merely read God's word, but they must live it. "When a person looks in a mirror and sees dirt on his face, he is not forced to wash his face, but it is natural that he should want to." (Don Fleming). When one sees God's word and lives by it, he is blessed. James concludes chapter one by saying that true religious people control their speech and express their faith in acts of kindness while not acting in rebellion to God (the world).**

**How well do you listen?**

**What do you do to allow God to shape your attitude?**

**How do you define someone who says one thing and does another?**

**Jesus gave us a clear teaching that encapsulates God's intention for His church as they follow His Word; Love God and Love people (Matthew 22:36-40).**