

Read James 1:1. Look at John 7:35.

Compare this greeting to 1 Peter 1:1-2. How are they similar? How do they differ?

Compare to 2 Peter 1:1-2 and 1 Corinthians 1:1-3.

Read James 1:2-4. Compare to Romans 5:1-5.

What trials or testing has your faith encountered? Did this strengthen your faith?

Read James 1:5-8. As you read this passage did you experience this passage as putting the responsibility on God or upon you?

Are faith and doubt within our power?

Consider vs. 8 in light of Matthew 28:16-20. How did Jesus respond to doubt in this passage?

Read James 1:9-11. What attitude toward riches is revealed in this passage? In what are the rich to rejoice?

Read James 1:12-16. Where does temptation come from?

How does Jesus being tempted (Luke 4:1-13) fit in with this passage?

Read James 1:17-18. What does this passage teach about God? What does this passage teach about us? What does this passage teach about the word?

Read James 1:19-21. What is the implanted word that has the power to save our souls?

Can you learn to follow this advice?

What ways have you found to be effective in being slow to anger?

Read James 1:22-25. Of what word are we called to be doers?

How is the word described in this passage?

Read James 1:26-27. What does it mean to be unstained by the world?

How is purity achieved according to this passage?

Read James 2:1-13. Does God show partiality toward the rich or the poor?

To what law does verse 10 refer? Is Paul making the same point in Romans 3:19-20?

Compare James 2:13 to Matthew 7:1-2. Are these passages making the same point?

Read James 2:14-26. James asks, "Can faith save you?" What answer does he expect?

What point is James making?

What attitude is James guarding against?

Read Romans 4:13-25. What point is Paul making?

Look at Romans 3:27-31. What attitude is Paul guarding against?

Look at James 2:12. Do you think Paul and James understand the law in the same way?

If faith is understood as depending on us who is responsible for our salvation?

If our works are understood as depending on us who is responsible for our salvation?

If our salvation depends on what we believe or on what we do how certain is our hope?

Do you think about whether or not you will be saved?

What is the source of your hope of being saved?

Read James 3:1. Do you think James is talking about salvation when he talks about being judged with greater strictness?

Are there different sorts of status in the kingdom of God?

Read James 3:2-12. What effect does James think these verses will have on the hearers?

Tell about a time that another's words broke a relationship with you?

Tell about a time when your words broke a relationship with another person?

Compare this section with Luke 6:43-45.

Read James 3:13-18. Is it obvious in your life who the spiritual persons are and who the unspiritual?

How would someone remedy having envy and selfish ambition in his heart?

Read James 4:1-10. What is the cause of conflicts and disputes?

What is the remedy for conflicts and disputes?

Have you ever humbled yourself? What happened?

Read James 5:1-6. To whom are these verses spoken?

What accusations might the have-nots make against the rich today?

When we as a society benefit from the actions of corporations that make life for difficult for the powerless are we guilty as individuals?

Who is being described in verse 6?

Read James 5:7-11. How is this passage connected to the one before it?

Why is being patient stressed?

It is nearly 2000 years since these words were written. How do you understand verse 9b?

Is expecting that Jesus will come again soon a part of being a Christian? Can believers expect that Jesus will not come again in their lifetime?

Can believers believe that God will not interrupt history but that God will let us determine the future of humanity?

Read James 5:12. What point is being made? Why is this important?

When are you tempted to reinforce the sincerity and truth of your words?

Read James 5:13-18. Is prayer answered because of our righteousness?

Do you believe in healing through prayer?

How do you explain when prayers for healing are not granted?

How will the sick be saved (same word in Greek means “saved” and means “made well”)? How will they be raised up? See Mark 1:29-31)

Read James 5:19-20. Whose sins will be covered?

Might one expect the forgiveness of Christ to be mentioned here?

What has pointed to Christ in this book?

What has emphasized our efforts in this book?

Does this book end as we might expect a letter to end?