



JAMES

Study Guide by Pastor Keith Hamblen



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Calvary Bible Church
3180 West Elm Street
Lima, Ohio 45805

blessed is the man (1:12)
James 1

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may [regard with pleasure] wondrous things out of thy law” (Ps.119:18)!

Remember to pray for Spirit-filling to understand and enjoy this study as you **mark**, **meditate**, **memorize**, and **master** these scriptures (Lk.11:13)!

G. Campbell Morgan’s Outline of James

- 1:1 Introduction
- 1 Faith as a principle of victory in temptation
- 2 Faith as a principle of action toward men
- 3 Faith as a principle of wisdom in speech
- 4 Faith as a principle of purity in character
- 5 Conclusion

Monday—prayerfully read and enjoy James 1:1-12, and answer the following questions from the first four verses.

- 1. Who wrote this book, and how did he self-identify (1:1)?

- 2. To what group did James write this book, and where were they located, and what was his first word to them (1:1)? _____

- 3. What are the brethren to count joyous (“all joy”) (1:2)?

- 4. What produces patience (1:3)? _____
- 5. What produces maturity (“perfect and entire”)—put this in your own words (1:4)? _____

6. Give something you can apply to your life from this chapter (and take with you for the day). _____

Tuesday—again prayerfully read James 1:1-12 and continue answering questions, today from verses 5-8.

1. What encouragements does v.5 give that God wants to give us wisdom? _____

2. Recite from memory James 1:5.
3. How are we to ask for wisdom (1:6)? _____
4. Who should not think that he will receive anything from the Lord (1:6-7)? _____
5. What do you suppose v.8 means? _____

6. Take a verse(s) with you for the day that you can apply to your life. Which verse(s) did you pick? _____

Wednesday—prayerfully read again James 1:1-12, and answer the following from verses 9-12.

1. Who is exalted in James 1:9, and what is he to do about it?

2. In what is the rich to rejoice (1:9-10)? _____
3. What one (or two) qualities of life is illustrated by the reference to the “flower of the grass shall pass away” in 1:10-11? _____

4. James 1:11 doesn't actually say the rich man will die; instead, what aspect of the rich shall end (which actually seems to be what is being pointed out)? _____

5. Who is blessed in 1:12, and what shall this man receive?

(bonus) What words could complete the thought which is left out immediately following "for when he is tried"?

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day.

Thursday—prayerfully read James 1:13-27, and answer the following from verses 13-17.

1. What does God not do (1:13)? _____

2. What two things work together to tempt a man, as suggested by 1:14? _____

3. Give the sequence when a person gives in to temptation (1:15).

(bonus) Do you think that v.16 should be included with the paragraph before it or after it (explain)? _____

4. Where does every good and perfect (complete) gift come from, and what do you suppose is the significance of God's title in this verse (1:17)? _____

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Friday—prayerfully read James 1:18-27, and answer the following from verses 18-24.

1. In James 1:18 what two things were involved in our being born again (being “begat”)? _____

2. What one thing should we be quick to do, and what two things should we be slow to do (1:19)? _____

3. What saves our souls, and what should we lay aside (1:21)?

4. How can we deceive ourselves according to vs.22-24?

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____
6. Take a thought or a verse with you for the day.

Saturday—prayerfully read James 1:22-27, and answer the following from verses 25-27.

1. Give the two practices of the man who is blessed in his actions, according to James 1:25? _____

2. What is a great evidence of true religion in v.26? _____

3. What is a man who thinks he's a good Christian ("religious") doing to himself if his speech is not "bridled" (Christ-like) (1:26)? _____
4. What two things in v.27 does James identify as "pure religion and undefiled"? _____
5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section. _____
6. Take a thought with you for the day from this section, which you can apply to your life.

Sunday—prayerfully review James 1.

have not respect of persons (2:1)
James 2

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may [regard with pleasure] wondrous things out of thy law” (Ps.119:18)!

Remember to pray for Spirit-filling to understand and enjoy this study as you **mark, meditate, memorize, and master** these scriptures (Lk.11:13)!

G. Campbell Morgan's Outline of James

- 1:1 Introduction
 - 1 Faith as a principle of victory in temptation
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Monday—prayerfully read and enjoy James 2:1-13, and answer the following questions from the first four verses.

1. What are we warned (commanded) against (2:1)?

2. What two individuals (groups) are contrasted, and what two adjectives are used to contrast what they are wearing (2:2)?

3. How were the poor not to be mistreated in 2:3? _____

4. Paraphrase James 2:4. _____

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____
6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Tuesday—again prayerfully read James 2:1-13 and continue answering questions, today from verses 5-9.

1. Who have been chosen “heirs of the kingdom [of God]” (2:5)?

2. What is ironical (humorously contradictory, incongruous) in 2:6? _____

3. What should strengthen our resolve (determination) to stand for God (and be salt, Mt.5:13) in this fallen world (2:7)?

4. What is called the royal law in 2:8? _____

5. What law is broken if you show “respect to persons” (partiality) (2:8-9)? _____

6. Take a verse(s) with you for the day that you can apply to your life.

Wednesday—prayerfully read again James 2:1-13, and answer the following from verses 10-13.

1. Who is guilty of breaking all the law (2:10)? _____

2. Does James 2:11 seem to indicate some sins are worse than others (explain)? _____

3. What should we keep in mind as we speak and act (2:12)? _____

4. What will happen to the one who showed no mercy (2:13)? _____

5. What do you think “mercy rejoiceth against judgment” means in 2:13? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day.

Thursday—prayerfully read James 2:14-26, and answer the following from verses 14-17.

1-2. In your own words, how would you answer “can faith save him?” asked in 2:14? _____

3-4. How does 2:15-16 illustrate James’ point in v.14? _____

5. In what way is faith alone (2:17)? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Friday—prayerfully read James 2:14-26, and answer the following from verses 18-20.

1. What can others (and even the person himself) not know if he doesn't see good works in his life, based on 2:18?

2. Based on 2:18, do words "show" anything? _____

3. What unexpected group believes that there is (only) one God (2:19)? _____

(bonus) How does true (sincere) faith respond as it contemplates God (2:19)? _____

4. What is dead according to v.20? _____

(bonus) Why do you suppose James calls the man of v.20 "vain"? _____

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a thought or a verse with you for the day.

Saturday—prayerfully read James 2:14-26, and answer the following from verses 21-26.

1. What words could be added after “justified” in 2:21 to clarify that works didn’t save Abraham (“from hell”)? _____

 2. What word could be used instead of “perfect” in 2:22 to clarify? _____
 3. What does 2:23 (by itself) teach saved (righteousness was imputed/added unto) Abraham? _____
 4. Who was called “the Friend of God” (2:23)?! _____
 5. What was Rahab’s good work according to 2:25?

- (bonus) What seems backwards about 2:26? _____

6. Take a thought with you for the day from this section, which you can apply to your life.

Sunday—prayerfully review James 2.

be not many masters (3:1)
James 3

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may [regard with pleasure] wondrous things out of thy law” (Ps.119:18)!

G. Campbell Morgan’s Outline of James

- 1:1 Introduction [Faith as a principle of belief in **revelation**]
- 1 Faith as a principle of victory in **temptation**
- 2 Faith as a principle of action toward [others, **partiality**]
- 3 Faith as a principle of wisdom in **speech**
- 4 Faith as a principle of purity [**humility**] in character
- 5 Conclusion [Faith as a principle of patience in **waiting**]

Monday—prayerfully read and enjoy James 3:1-12, and answer the following questions from the first five verses.

1. What should we not seek to be, and for what reason (3:1)?
Please put your answer in your own words. _____

2. In what do we offend (3:2)? _____
3. Who is a perfect (mature) person, and what does he demonstrate by controlling his tongue (3:2)? _____

4. What three pictures are given in verses 3-5 which portray the power of a little thing (in nature)? _____

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Tuesday—again prayerfully read James 3:1-12 and continue answering questions, today from verses 6-8.

1. Where (or what) sets on fire the wrong kind of fire (3:6)?

2. In what way do you suppose can an iniquitous tongue set on fire the course of nature (cf. 3:6)? _____

3. List four groups of things which have been tamed by people (3:7). _____

4. What kind of evil can the tongue be, and what can it be full of (3:8)? _____

5. Give a specific way in which you can improve the role of your tongue. _____

6. Take a verse(s) with you for the day that you can apply to your life.

Wednesday—prayerfully read again James 3:1-12, and answer the following from verses 9-12.

1. How do you suppose we can bless God and curse men? Give an example for each (cf. 3:9). _____

2. What is the connection between God and man pointed out in v.9? _____

3. What ought not to be according to 3:10? _____

- 4-5. What is given as support (in general and specifically) for the truth that out of the same mouth should not come both blessing and cursing (3:11-12)? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day.

Thursday—prayerfully read James 3:13-18, and answer the following from verses 13-15.

1-2. How is a wise man known (distinguished)? Give two evidences from 3:13. _____

3. In what are we not to glory (3:14)? _____

4. What do you suppose “lie not against the truth” means in 3:14?

5. The wisdom that descends not from above is “earthly, sensual, devilish” (3:15). What three corresponding terms could be used to describe wisdom that is from above? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Friday—prayerfully read again James 3:13-18, and answer the following from verses 16-18.

1. What two things are evidences of envying and strife (being present in the heart) (3:16)? _____

2. How many evidences of the wisdom that is from above are listed in v.17? _____

3-4. List the evidences of wisdom that is from above given in 3:17.

5. What leads to the fruit of righteousness (apparently) according to James 3:18? _____

6. Take a thought or a verse with you for the day.

Saturday—can you **recall** the definitions of the following theological terms we have studied?

redeem: to deliver by _____ a price

atonement: the reconciliation of man to God through the substitutional and _____ death of Christ which propitiated (_____) the wrath of God and redeemed man from His sin

faith: _____ on God

works: willful human _____ which can be either good or bad or neutral (“human,” e.g., eating and sleeping)

grace: unmerited _____; _____ influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life (Strong’s); _____ enablement

Recite Ephesians 2:8-10.

Sunday—prayerfully review James 3.

Ye have not, because ye ask not (4:2)
James 4

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may [regard with pleasure] wondrous things out of thy law” (Ps.119:18)!

Monday—prayerfully read and enjoy James 4:1-7, and answer the following questions from the first three verses.

1. From where does disunity among the brethren come (4:1)? Please put your answer in your own words. _____

2. What three or four (or five) activities on our part do not result in our getting what we want (4:2)? _____

3. What keeps us from having what we want according to v.2?

4. What keeps us from having what we want according to v.3?

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Tuesday—again prayerfully read James 4:1-7 and continue answering questions, today from verses 4-7.

1. What does James say is enmity with [hatred towards] God, and who is the enemy of God (4:4)? _____

2. What do you suppose is friendship with the world, mentioned in 4:4, and give an example. _____

3. What “spirit” dwells in us which (or who) “lusts to envy,” and what do you suppose that means (4:5)? _____

4. To whom does God give grace (4:6)? _____

(bonus) What do you suppose is meant by “more grace” in v.6—more than what? _____

5. How is the devil overcome (made to flee) (4:7)?

6. Take a verse(s) with you for the day that you can apply to your life.

Wednesday—prayerfully read again James 4:8-10, and answer the following.

1. How do you suppose we can draw nigh to God, and what will happen when we do that (4:8)? _____

2. What could we be double minded about (mentioned in v.8)?

- 3-4. Explain James 4:9 (take a little extra time with this, thinking about it, and asking God to help you). _____

5. What will cause God to lift us up (4:10)? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day.

Thursday—prayerfully read James 4:11-17, and answer the following from verses 11-13.

- 1-2. Of whom are we not to speak evil, and how do you suppose we can speak evil of them (4:11)? _____

- 3-4. In what sense can we speak evil of our brother which is judging our brother (do you suppose)? _____

5. Who do you suppose is the lawgiver mentioned in 4:12?

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Friday—prayerfully read again James 4:11-17, and answer the following from verses 13-17.

1. What did the person in 4:13 set out to do? _____

2. What is your life, according to 4:14? _____
3. What ought we to develop into a practice of saying (and thinking) (4:15)? _____
- 4-5. What is the person in 4:13-16 doing that is good, and what is bad? _____

6. Take a thought or a verse with you for the day.

Saturday—bonus considerations!

1. Give the three questions to have in mind as we study a passage of Scripture (which correspond to the three terms of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom).
 - a. What does it _____? Knowledge (the facts)
 - b. What does it _____? Understanding (how it fits in with the rest of the Bible)
 - c. How does it _____? Wisdom (how I put it into practice)
2. Distinguish the **royal law** (2:8), the **whole law** (2:10), and the **law of liberty** (2:12). The royal law could be said to rule all the other laws (cf. Mt. 22:39-40); the whole law could refer to all the will of God (from the beginning, including “be fruitful and multiply,” for example); the law of liberty could refer to all the

will (“commands”) of God combined with the grace (enablement to keep the law) supplied through the Gospel story.

3. **Recite** Ephesians 2:8-10, and Romans 12:1-2.

Sunday—prayerfully review James 4.

Ye have heard of the patience of Job (5:11)
James 5

Monday—prayerfully read and enjoy James 5:1-6, and answer the following questions from the first three verses.

1. What does James think should lead (certain kinds of) rich people to “weep and howl” (mourn) (5:1)? _____

2. Why would we limit the “rich people” of the first question to “certain kinds of” rich people (5:2-6)? _____

3. Discuss briefly the time frame of verses 2-3 compared to verses 5-6; in other words is James looking at the past, present, or future days in these two different sets of verses? _____

4. What do you suppose James means when he writes in v.3 “Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days”?

5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Tuesday—again prayerfully read James 5:1-6 and continue answering questions, today from verses 4-6.

1. What were these rich men doing with the wages of their workers (5:4)? _____
2. In the first half of v.4 what is crying, and in the second half what is crying? _____
3. How had these rich ones lived on the earth (5:5)? _____

4. Whom have these rich killed, without resistance (5:6)? _____

(bonus) Give a possible way in which the just do not resist these killing them. _____
5. Give something you can apply to your life in this section (and actually do apply it). _____

6. Take a verse(s) with you for the day that you can apply to your life.

Wednesday—prayerfully read James 5:7-9, and answer the following.

1. What point of reference is given for our patience (5:7)? _____

(bonus) What other points of reference might we have? _____
2. Who is the husbandman (mentioned in v.7)? _____

3. How do you suppose we can “stablish [(establish) our] hearts” (mentioned in v.8)? _____
4. Who is “the Lord” in v.8? Do you think this is the same person as “the judge” in v.9? _____
5. For what is faith required (and revealed) in these three verses (5:7-9)? _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day.

Thursday—prayerfully read James 5:10-12, and answer the following.

1. Who are given as examples of patience, and where else are they an example for us (5:10)? _____

2. Who are counted happy (5:11)? _____
3. What had they heard of, apparently the man here being identified as a prophet (given the context of v.10) (5:11)? _____

4. What is “the end of the Lord” (that is, where the Lord takes those who endure patiently the suffering of affliction) (5:11)? _____

5. What is the point of 5:12? Perhaps you could paraphrase the verse. _____

6. Take a verse (or thought) with you for the day that you can percolate.

Friday—prayerfully read James 5:13-20, and answer the following.

1. What are each of the following instructed to do (5:13-14)? The afflicted _____ the merry _____ the sick _____

2. What is stated will save the sick (5:14)? _____

(bonus) What is the implication of “if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him”? _____

3. What does 5:16 teach we are to do to and for each other?

(bonus) Recite from memory “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

4. What second OT character does James give (Job was the first, v.11) as an example, and in what realm is he given to us as an example? _____

5. What should be our concern, as brought out in the concluding two verses of this letter (5:19-20)? _____

6. Take a thought or a verse with you for the day.

Saturday—James emphasizes that true, saving faith produces certain behaviors, some of which we are helped to grow into as we are confronted with them (cf. Pro. 16:3)! Review this practical book by answering the following!

1. We are to consider it a joy when we are faced with what according to James 1? _____

2. What are we not to show toward different “ranks” (or status) of others, according to James 2? _____

3. What reveals our maturity (which no man can tame), and requires God's help, according to James 3? _____
4. What are we called upon to do which brings us grace from God, according to ch.4 (v.6)? _____
5. What are we called upon to do regarding the coming of the Lord and current "suffering affliction," according to James 5 (7-11)? _____