

# The Book of James

## *Surviving Fiery Trials and Fleshly Temptations*

*James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*  
James 1:1-4

**Authorship:** James, the Servant of God, Son of Joseph, Brother of Jesus

**Date of the Letter:** 44-50 A.D.

**Recipients:** The *Diaspora* or scattering of Jews and Christians throughout the Roman Empire

**Description of the Letter:** Written from a Christian Jew to Christian Jews at a time when Christianity was still close to genuine Judaism; emphasis upon practical Christianity instead of theological Christianity; and considered an exposition of the Sermon on Mount.

**Intent of the Letter:** To prepare the Remnant of believers for the troubles that lay ahead: Unprecedented *Fiery Trials* and Unparalleled *Fleshly Temptations*. The letter is an example of Early Church prepping!

**Three Kinds of Individuals:** James indicates that there are three kinds of individuals who like to live on the edge of sin and are most troubled by trials and temptations. These three, the *Unstable Man* (1:6-9), the *Unobservant Man* (1:10-11), and the *Uncertain Man* (1:13-15), will most likely not survive the unprecedented fiery trials or unparalleled fleshly temptations that lay ahead.

**Content of the Letter:** In light of the coming fiery trial and fleshly temptations, James challenges the believer with eight tests to determine the possibility of the believer's survival.

**Test One:** Our Attitude toward the *Word* of God – 1:19-27

**Test Two:** Our Attitude toward the *Wealth* of Others – 2:1-13

**Test Three:** Our Attitude toward the *Work* of God – 2:14-26

**Test Four:** Our Attitude toward the *Words* of our Mouth – 3:1-12

**Test Five:** Our Attitude toward the *Wisdom* from Above – 3:13-18

**Test Six:** Our Attitude toward the *World* of Compromise – 4:1-12

**Test Seven:** Our Attitude toward the *Work* of our Hands – 4:13-5:6

**Test Eight:** Our Attitude toward the *Welfare* of Others – 5:7-20



*Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God – Romans 10:17*

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