

JAMES – LESSON 1

I. PRACTICAL FAITH : SEEING THROUGH UNTO REALITY (1:1-11)

- A. Salutation: Greeting – wishing joy (1:1)
 - 1. James – bondservant of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 2. Recipients of Letter – twelve tribes which of the Dispersion.

- B. Seeing through temptations (1:2-4)
 - 1. Faith proven under fire worketh stedfastness.
 - 2. Stedfastness is an essential part of maturity.

- C. Seeing God as giver of wisdom (1:5-8).
 - 1. God gives liberally and upbraideth not.
 - 2. God gives wisdom to see through the trials.
 - 3. God gives wisdom to those who ask in faith – nothing doubting.
 - 4. The double-minded man does not receive from the Lord.

- D. Seeing through to the truly rich (1:9-11)
 - 1. Brother in low degree can rejoice in his high estate in the Lord.
 - 2. The rich can be humbled knowing that he and his riches quickly fade away.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Reflecting on the men named James in the New Testament, what does James' salutation in this letter say about the heart of the writer?

- 2. How is the word “temptations” used in verse 2?

- 3. Why should a Christian rejoice at his or her confrontation with temptations?

- 4. How does the need of “wisdom” in verse 5 fit the context?

- 5. What two characteristics of God should encourage us to ask God for the wisdom we lack?

6. What does it mean to “ask in faith”?

7. Describe the “double-minded” man by giving an example.

8. In verses 9-10, is God condemning rich people and justifying the poor?
Explain your answer.

9. What reality should humble the rich?