

Grace Norwalk. - 7/3/22.

James Pt.1 - 1:1

It has been said that James is compared to the book of _____ from the OT

There are 5 things that I love about this book

1. James is _____.
2. James is _____.
3. James is _____.
4. James is _____.
5. James will _____ you to examine if your faith is real or fake.

- What is the book of James all about? F _____ + W _____.

“IF YOUR FAITH IS GOING TO IMPACT OTHERS IT MUST BE _____”

Proposition: To understand the book of James we must understand _____ essential things

I. Our faith must be _____.

The genuineness of something valuable is attested or affirmed through a process of examination and testing....

- What do you think about this statement?
“98% of Americans claim to be Christians”

Test of your faith

Psalm 17:3

You have tried my heart, you have visited me by night, you have tested me

Psalm 26: 1- 2

“Judge me, O LORD, for I have walked in mine integrity. I have trusted also in the Lord. Therefore I shall not slide. Examine me, O LORD, and prove me. Test my heart and my mind.”

Psalm 139:23-24

“Search me, O God, and know my heart. Try me and know my thoughts, and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting,”

Lamentations 3:40 *“Let us search and test our ways and turn again to the Lord.”*

Haggai 1:5-7

“Now therefore, thus saith the Lord of hosts” –

‘Consider your ways.

6 You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

’ “Thus saith the Lord of hosts,

‘Consider your ways.’” Think on your life, examine yourself.

1 Corinthians 11:28 *“Let a man examine himself,”*

2 Corinthians 13:5, *“Examine yourselves whether you are in the faith.”*

Prove yourselves. Validate yourselves.

- Small group question, when was the last time you examined your faith?

II. James had experienced the power of saving faith that results in a transformed life, James had been changed...

James, the brother of our Lord

- He is the most likely candidate for the author of this epistle
- Even though he humbly identifies himself only as “a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ” (1:1)
- That Jesus had a brother named James is evident –

Mt 13:55

⁵⁵Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?

Who at first did not believe in Jesus - Jn 7:5 ⁵ *For not even his brothers believed in him.*

1 Co 15:7. ⁷ *Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.*

Ac 1:14 ¹⁴ *All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

He had changed because of his faith in the risen Christ, his faith was shown by his actions....

III. James is not a _____ but a _____ book about Christian living

A. Written to believers.

1:2 "My brothers". 16, 19 my beloved brothers.
2:1, 14 "My brothers"
3:1, 10, 12 "My brothers"
4:10 "My Brothers"
5: 9, 10, 12, 19 "My brothers"

James 108 verses – 54 are imperatives.

Test your faith.

- 1:2-4. Your Faith will be tested by trials in your life
- 1:22. Your Faith will be tested by your attitude to the teaching of the word of God.
- 2:1-13. Your Faith will be tested by the way you treat people.
- 2:14ff Your Faith will be tested by its actions
- 3:1 ff Your Faith will be tested by the way you talk about others and about others
- 3:13. Your Faith will be tested by the way you make decisions in your life, do you live your life with earthly or heavenly wisdom...
- 4:1. *Your Faith will be tested by your personality. Are you selfish or a selfless person, do you care for others opinions, do you care for how your opinion or decisions affect other people??*
- 4:13. *Your Faith will be tested by the way you place God in your plans (Short or long term) ...*
- Chap.5 *Your Faith will be tested by your attitude toward material things, the way you treat your employees if you are the boss or your work ethics if you are the employee*
- Your Faith will be tested by your patience
- Your Faith will be tested by your care for others physically and spiritually (Prayer)

Some may say, "But I thought salvation was by FAITH ALONE!!!!"

Yes. It is, but once you received salvation by faith alone it does not go to sleep, it goes to work!!!

Phil. 2:12. **"work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,"**
.....

Questions:

- Are you ready to examine yourself in light of the scripture?
- Are you ready to find out what kind of faith you have?
- Are you working out your faith?

If your faith is active, be active and always inviting others to hear Gods word....

James desires then to show the character of living faith.