

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**

*<sup>55</sup>Is 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 <sup>5</sup> *For not even his brothers believed in him.*

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

Ac 1:14 <sup>14</sup> *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.**

SUMMER SERMON SERIES 2022

# JAMES

FAITH ⊕ ACTION

**Pt. 1**

GRACE NORWALK

- **James is practical.**
  - **James is direct.**
  - **James is stretching.**
  - **James is encouraging.**
- **James will challenge you to examine if your faith is real or fake**

# I. Our faith must be tested.

- 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.”*

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*“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.”*

# I. Our faith must be tested.

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- *“Now therefore, thus saith the Lord of hosts” –  
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- **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 host,  
‘Consider your ways.’” Think on your life, examine yourself.*

# I. Our faith must be tested.

- 1 Corinthians 11:28
- *“Let a man examine himself,”*
  
- 2 Corinthians 13:5,
- *“Examine yourselves whether you are in the faith.”*



- James says that
- **1** <sup>23</sup> *For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing*

## John MacArthur

- Verbal, intellectual claim to the truth is useless unless there is the demonstration of a transformed life that is marked by righteousness.
- And intellectual, ritualistic, external religiosity without the evidence of a transformed lifestyle frankly is an abomination to God and very common.

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

- **James, son of Zebedee and brother of John**
  - A fisherman, he was called by Christ - Mt 4:17-22
  - Together with John, they were nicknamed “Sons of Thunder” because of their impulsiveness
  - Killed by Herod in 44 A.D. - Ac 12:1-2

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

- **James, son of Alphaeus**

- Another of the apostles - Mt 10:3; Ac 1:12
- Very little is known about him
- There is no indication that this James wrote the epistle

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

- James, father of Judas the apostle

He is even more obscure

One of the few references to him is found in Lk 6:16

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

## 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**

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

- **Jn 7:5**

- ***5 For not even his brothers believed in him.***

- **The Impact of the risen Christ**

- **1 Co 15:7.** <sup>7</sup> *Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.*

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



**The Book of James is not considered doctrinal, it is considered a practical book about Christian living that will help us examine ourselves.**

- **1:2** “My brothers”. 16, 19 my beloved brothers.
- **2:1, 14** “My brothers”
- **3:1, 10, 12** “My brothers”
- **4:10** “Do not speak evil against each other “My Brothers”
- **5: 9, 10, 12, 19** “My brothers”
  
- **Verses = 108 - 54 imperatives**

# Your Faith will be tested – Faith / Action

- 1:2-4. Your Faith will be tested by trials in your life
- 1:22. Your Faith will be tested by your attitude toward 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 your actions
- 3:1 ff Your Faith will be tested by the way you talk about others
- 3:13. Your Faith will be tested by the way you make decisions in your life.

# Your Faith will be tested – Faith / Action

- 4:1. Your Faith will be tested by your personality and attitude
- 4:13. Your Faith will be tested by the way you place God in your plans (Short or long term) ...
- 5 Your Faith will be tested by your attitude towards material things.

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

*Katergazomai* = get busy, be productive.

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