

JAMES #1 - INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK

JAMES 1:1-2

- I. THE WRITER (vs.1a)
 - A. Several New Testament men named James
 - 1. Not James (Zebedee) - died in AD 42 ACTS 12:1-2
 - 2. Not James (Alphaeus) - both listed MATT. 10:2-3
 - B. Believed to be James the Just
 - 1. Half-brother to Jesus - MATT. 13:55
 - 2. Probably pastored Jerusalem Church ACTS 15:13-27
 - C. Great SERVANT and SPOKESMAN for God and the Lord Jesus
- II. THE RECIPIENTS (vs.1b)
 - A. The Twelve Tribes - Those Jews away from Jerusalem:
 - 1. Converted on the day of Pentecost ACTS 2:5
 - 2. Driven away at Stephen's death ACTS 8:1-4
 - 3. Stayed abroad because of persecution ACTS 11:19
 - B. "My brethren" includes Christians across Roman Empire
 - C. This is a book that applies to us today!
- III. THE GREETING (vs. 1c)
 - A. The Christian Greeting from one believer to another
 - 1. From one brother to another in Christ TITUS 3:15
 - 2. Be a blessing to other believers RUTH 2:4
 - B. It is a greeting of JOY (vs. 2)
- IV. THE LETTER
 - A. The book is only 5 chapters / 108 verses long
 - 1. Contains VERY useful everyday advice on life
 - 2. It is SALT to the "meat" of the New Testament
 - B. It is an intensely PRACTICAL book
 - 1. James rebukes sham and hypocrisy in Christians
 - 2. James upholds REALITY in our WALK with Christ
 - C. James discusses many subjects:

Temptations 1:2-18	Worldliness 4:1-12
Hearing & Doing 1:19-27	God & Business 4:13-17
Respect of Persons 2:1-13	Social Injustice 5:1-6
Faith & Works 2:14-26	Patience & Prayer 5:7-18
Care of the Tongue 3:1-12	Backsliders 5:19-20
True & False Wisdom 3:13-18	
 - D. The book gives COMFORT, REBUKE, COUNSEL to believers