

Book of James Bible Study
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James, a servant of God and of the Lord Yeshua Hamashiach, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting. 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. 9 Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: 10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. 11 For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways. 12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. 13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. 16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. 19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: 20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. 21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. 25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. 26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. 27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Chapter 1

V. 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations.

Count it all JOY when the adversary or your lusts sends you divers temptations or when you are tempted with a variety of temptations.

Why should you count it as joy or why should you be joyful?

V. 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

Because Satan sees that you have a new master and he wants to see if he can steal you back. He, Satan, is trying your faith to see if it is real and true. If you believe or if you are merely speaking words. Do you believe it?

This trying of your faith that he is doing causes a gift or benefit to be produced in you. That gift is patience.

V. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Through these temptations, Satan or your flesh is trying to get you to reject God. This trying of you by Satan works patience in you to the point of perfecting patience.

V. 5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Verse 5 tells us that if you don't understand how to apply the knowledge you have then ask and he will give it to you. Wisdom is rightfully applied knowledge or understanding. God says he will give you wisdom liberally or in abundance. And that he won't take it back.

V6. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

This tells us that we must ask **IN** faith. Not that we must have faith but that we **ARE IN** faith.

If you are not in faith, then you are in doubt and doubt IS unbelief. Unbelief is calling God a LIAR.

V7. For let NOT that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

If you are doubting and wavering IN unbelief. God says don't even think you will receive because you WON'T.

V8. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Verse 8 reveals the heart of the person that wavers, doubts, and doesn't believe. That they are **unstable** in all their ways.

Strong's Concordance
Unstable G182 *akatastatos*
unstable, inconstant, restless

Noah Webster 1828

1. Not stable; not fixed.
2. Not steady; inconstant; irresolute; wavering. [James 1:8](#).

V9-11 Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted: 10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. 11 For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

These verses are very much like Matthew 19:23-26 which says “Then said Yeshua unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. 25 When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? 26 But Yeshua beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.”

Don't be like the rich man who completely trusts in himself, his things, and what his money can obtain.

V12. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

When you can endure, withstand and not succumb to the temptations. You have proven that you truly believe and because you truly believe the Lord gives you a crown of LIFE. You get this crown of life only because you did not fall for the lies of the devil.

V13. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

All temptations are evil because they look to produce an outcome that is contrary to the character of God, which is to be our new character.

This verse is a reminder to not fall into the false doctrine or wrong understanding of who these temptations are from.

God does not and cannot tempt you and temptations are evil.

V14. But every man is tempted, when he is **drawn away of his own lust**, and enticed.

This verse tells us where the temptations come from. They come from our lusts. Our own sinful heart.

Why do I say they come from Satan or the devil? Satan's character is to kill, steal and destroy so if it falls into that category then he, satan, is somewhere in the midst of it?

V15. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

This verse tells us what the result is if you don't overcome temptation, lust, and sin. It brings death. This death is very much spiritual as you can see below the meaning of the word in the original language.

Spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical.

Strong's G2288 *thanatos*

1. the death of the body
 1. that separation (whether natural or violent) of the soul and the body by which the life on earth is ended
2. with the **implied idea of future misery in hell**
 1. the power of death
3. metaph., the loss of that life which alone is worthy of the name,
 1. the **misery of the soul arising from sin, which begins on earth but lasts and increases after the death of the body in hell**
4. the miserable state of the wicked dead in hell
5. in the widest sense, death comprising all the miseries arising from sin, as well physical death as the loss of a life consecrated to God and blessed in him on earth, to be followed by wretchedness in hell

V16. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

Another reminder to know the character of God and not to attribute to HIM the attributes that do not belong to HIM, but his adversary. The next verse is a reminder of GOD's character.

V 17. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is **no** variableness, **neither** shadow of turning.

This verse shows to us the Character of God. His gifts are only good and perfect. Temptations are neither good nor perfect but evil. God is not constantly changing nor hiding in the shadows.

V18. Of his own will begat he us with the **WORD OF TRUTH**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

This verse tells us the relationship that the Father wants with each one of us. That is to begat us, to birth us into new creations to be firstfruits. Not to be dead living in sin and wallowing in the mud of temptation which is evil.

V19. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be **swift to hear**, **slow** to speak, **slow** to wrath:

This verse coupled with the previous verses tells us that we need to be very attentive to hear and receive the truth. To not be angry to the point of a physical response because what's been revealed goes against what you've been taught and believe. Don't be stubborn but receive the truth and be set free from this false doctrine and break that sacred cow stronghold. God is not Zeus on top of Mount Olympus just waiting to zap you with a lightning bolt.

The average churchgoer doesn't realize that most of the churches view God as the Greek god Zeus.

V 20. For **the wrath of man** worketh **NOT** the righteousness of God.

Is a reminder that wrath does not and cannot work the righteousness of God. We are made the righteousness of God through Hamashiach Yeshua if we believe. This is not a mental accent or mental agreement but a living action. We are IN faith because we are one. (John 14)

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Romans 3:22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Yeshua Hamashiach unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

V 21. Wherefore lay apart **ALL** filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **receive** with meekness the **engrafted word**, which is able to save your souls.

This scripture gives us the detail of what cannot be in our lives if we are HIS new creation, HIS firstfruits.

Strong's

Filthiness G4507 *rhyparia*

1. to make filthy, befoul
2. to defile, dishonour
3. to make filthy
4. dirtiness (morally)
5. turpitude (inherent baseness or vileness of principle in the human heart; extreme depravity. Baseness or vileness of words or actions; shameful wickedness.
6. of wickedness as moral defilement:

Superfluity G4050 *perisseia*

1. abundance, superabundantly, superfluously

2. superiority, preference, pre-eminence
3. superabundance
4. gain, profit
5. residue, remains: the wickedness remaining over in his state prior to conversion

of naughtiness G2549 *kakia*

1. malignity, malice, ill-will, desire to injure
2. wickedness, depravity
 1. wickedness that is not ashamed to break laws
3. evil, trouble
4. badness
5. depravity
6. malice
7. Evil
8. Wickedness

Engrafted G1721 *emphytos*

inborn, implanted by nature, implanted by others instruction

We've been implanted into God by grafting. Watch the video for an in-depth explanation of engrafting.

This verse details what must be removed and that we are to receive THE WORD, Yeshua with meekness.

V 22. But be ye doers of the WORD, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

How are we to live? If we don't live the way he has proscribed, God says we are deceiving ourselves.

We MUST be DOERS.

Matthew 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

This verse is a reminder of what Jesus said that if we hear and don't do what we have heard that we are deceiving ourselves that we belong to HIM and that we will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

V. 23-24 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

This verse is an excellent visual that we don't know who or whose we are if we continue in these things and forget that we are new creations, new species of being, and those old things are passed away and have no claim on us.

We can no longer live like we lived before if we are saved. We are saved from sin not saved in sin.

V 25. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being **not** a forgetful hearer, **but a doer of the work**, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

How awesome that if we are a doer we are blessed.

Deuteronomy 28:1-6 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

When we do what we know, we are blessed everywhere we go and everything we do.

V 26. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

This is a reminder that we know people by the fruit that they bear.

Matthew 7:15-20 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

1 Corinthians 15:33-34 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. 34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

You will know people by the fruit that they bear.

What is pure religion?

V 27. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

Religion is good, religious is not. We must die to this world and this world to us. I can not longer be us that lives but Christ.

How do we keep ourselves unspotted, undefiled, and unclean from the world?

Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Bible Study Questions:

1. Does God tempt anyone? (James 1:13)

2. Can the doctrine that God tempts you be true, in light of this scripture?

3. Where does temptation come from? (James 1:14)

4. When you have a temptation what is being tried? (James 1:3)

5. Who is trying your faith? (James 1:14)

6. What does the Word of God call temptations? (James 1:13)

7. What does sin bring? (James 1:15)

8. Does God give you evil? (James 1:17)

9. Why will the rich man fade away? (James 1:13) (Matthew 19:23-26)

10. Is anything hidden or in the shadows when it comes to God? (James 1:17)

11. How did God beget us or with what did he beget us? (James 1:18)

12. How are we to listen, perceive and receive the truth? (James 1:19)

13. Can wrath work out in us the righteousness of God? (James 1:20)
If we are God's Righteousness, then if we walk in wrath are we God creatures?
(James 1:20, 2 Corinthians 5:21 & Romans 3:22)

14. What are we to do away with? (James 1:21)

15. How are we to receive the Word? (James 1:21)

16. If you hear the Word/the Truth but don't do it; what does God say that you are doing? (James 1:22)

17. If you are grafted and you are no longer the same person but completely different and you hear the Word and don't do it what does God say that you have done? (James 1:24)

18. If you are grafted, you are no longer the same person, you are completely different and you do and apply the Word that you hear what does the Word say you are? (James 1:25)

19. If you are quick to speak, quick to wrath and slow to hear what does the word say that your beliefs or religion is? (James 1:26)

20. What is Pure religion? (James 1:27)
