

Presence Theater Church
Bible Survey
The Epistle of James

In this the first of the _____ Epistles, James stresses that true faith must manifest itself in works of faith.

Who wrote it? This letter is titled according to its author, James, who was probably the half brother of _____. Although the New Testament lists at least 5 men named “James”, tradition ascribes it to Jesus’ half brother partly because the language is similar to his speech in Acts 15.

Date of writing _____ Surrounding Circumstances:

- James, the half brother of Jesus, rose to prominence as an effective leader in the church of Jerusalem (Acts 12:17, 15:13, 21:18).
- This epistle was intended for wide circulation among the scattered _____ believers.

Key Term: _____: This book focuses on the importance of good works as the evidence of genuine _____. As such, it perfectly complements Galatians.

Location of Events: The location is most probably Jerusalem.

Book Outline: I. **The _____ of Faith (1:1-18)**

- The Purpose of Tests (1:1-12)
- The Source of Temptations (1:13-18)

II. **The _____ of Faith (1:19-5:6)**

- Faith Obeys the Word (1:19-27)
- Faith Removes Discrimination (2:1-13)
- Faith Proves Itself by Works (2:14-26)
- Faith Controls the _____ (3:1-12)
- Faith Produces Wisdom (3:13-18)
- Faith Produces Humility (4:1-12)
- Faith Produces Dependence on God (4:13-5:6)

III. The _____ of Faith (5:7-20)

- Faith Endures Awaiting Christ's Return (5:7-12)
- Faith Prays for the Afflicted (5:13-18)
- Faith Confronts the Erring Brother (5:19-20)

Summary in one sentence: True faith must be lived out in everyday life by good deeds, especially in the face of _____ or persecution, and such good works demonstrate the presence of faith and justification before God.

Summary in ten words or less: _____

Cast of Characters: *James* – a servant of God and Jesus Christ; *The man who doubts* – likened unto a _____ on the sea; *The man who perseveres under trial* – will be given the _____ of life; *The brother or sister in need* – good words and warm wishes will not suffice; *The friends of the world* – _____ of God

Verse to Remember: “For just as the body without the _____ is dead, so also faith without _____ is dead.” (James 2:26)

- Interesting Facts:**
1. There are about 15 indirect references to the Sermon on the Mount in the Book of James.
 2. James is considered to be the proverbs of the New Testament.
 3. In the Book of James: “Faith” occurs 12 times, “Works” occurs 13 times, and “Doer” occurs 5 times.
 4. This epistle may have been the first New Testament book written.

What is my take away? Each believer must walk out their faith _____ with practical works of good without becoming _____ in doing so. (Gal. 6:9)