

Lesson 1: Introduction To James, & Wisdom In Suffering 1:1-8

Dates & Authorship

1. How many characters named “James” do we read about in the New Testament? Identify them. (Matt. 4:18-22, Mark 1:16-20, Matt. 10:3, Mark 3:18, Matt. 13:55, Mark 6:3, John 7:5)
2. Who is the author of the epistle of James? (1:1, 1 Cor. 15:7)
3. What was James' role in the early church? (Acts 1:14, Acts 15, Gal. 1:19, 2:9, Acts 21:18)

Recipients

4. Describe the recipients of the book of James. (1:1-4)
5. Who are “Israel” or the “twelve tribes”? (Jas. 2:1, Romans 2:28-29, 9:6, Gal. 6:16)
6. Why were they “dispersed”? (Acts 8:1)

Theme And Overall Message

7. What were some problems and challenges the recipients were experiencing? (James 1:2, 19-20, 22-25, 2:14-26, ch. 3, 4:4-5, 5:1ff.)
8. What do you think is the overall or overarching message of the book of James? List two or three phrases that indicate the theme of James.

Wisdom In Suffering, 1:2-8

9. What is necessary for facing suffering with joy? (1:2-3)
10. What is “patience” as the word is used here? (1:4, Job 17:9, Psa. 37:7, 40:1, Gal. 6:9)
11. Wisdom is spoken of in connection with what?
12. How does one obtain wisdom? (1:5-6, Prov. 1:4, 7, 3:5-7, 9:4-6, 10)
13. What does it mean to be “double minded”? (1:7-8, Matt. 6:22, 24)