

The Book of James

Author: James, the half-brother of Jesus

> James at first rejected Jesus as the Messiah (John 7:5), but later came to faith after seeing the risen Lord (I Cor. 15:7). In the book of Acts, we see James as a follower of Jesus (1:14). He gained authority and respect, and went on to become the leader in the Jerusalem church (21:17-18).

Date letter was written: 45-49 A.D.

> James was the first New Testament book written.

People letter was written to: Jewish Christians

> These Jewish people had been scattered throughout the Roman Empire because of persecution (James 1:1).

Reason for writing: To show that genuine faith will bring about actions that please the Lord.

> This book discusses a variety of practical topics:

- Handling difficult trials (1:2-3)
- Dealing with temptation (1:12-15)
- Guarding against favoritism (2:1-13)
- Living a life of faith (2:14-26)
- Controlling your tongue (3:1-12)
- Practicing humility (4:1-6)
- Having a right outlook on the future (4:13-17)
- Anticipating the Lord's return (5:7-12)

The book of James has a lot to say about the world in which we live and the people in which we come into contact. This study will show that as our faith is tested, and as we mature in Christ, the impact will be seen in every aspect of our lives.

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