

JAMES



Wisdom & Wealth

1:5-12

Where FAITH becomes ACTION

JAMES 1:5 - 12

Author – James

Audience – 12 Tribes Scattered

Setting - Early book

- persecution, eye witnesses to Jesus life

So Far:

- Trials of Various Kinds
- Count it all Joy
- For You Know....

Heb. 12:2 "...who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame...




JAMES 1:5 - 12

James 1:5-12

“ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.



JAMES 1:5 - 12



Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation,¹⁰ and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away.¹¹ For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him."

JAMES 1:5 - 12

1. Where is Your Anchor Set? 5-8

a) Wisdom Defined

- 'the ability to make the right use of knowledge'

- difference between information and application

- all lack insight, discernment, ability to see and apply knowledge



JAMES 1:5 - 12

b) wisdom source... Proverbs 1:2-7

²To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, ³to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; ⁴to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth— ⁵Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, ⁶to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles. ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instructions



JAMES 1:5 - 12

- ask of God who....
 - gives generously (vs.17)
 - without reproach

c) Letting Wisdom Work

- issue of doubts and asking in faith
- setting the anchor – Eph. 4:14

“so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”



JAMES 1:5 - 12

- upside down nature of God's kingdom
 - forgiveness
 - serving
 - pride
 - sexuality
 - Sabbath
 - heart of Man – Gen. 6:5, Mk.7:21
- when you are shown by:
 - His Word, Holy Spirit, Other Believers,
- can you trust and set your anchor?



JAMES 1:5 - 12

2. What is Your Scorecard?

a) Checking what we find Important

- contrast – rich and poor
- important and unimportant
- pride and humility
- echo of Sermon on Mount

b) Because...

- reason why –
- passing through this world, time quick
- eternity a reality, victory over death



JAMES 1:5 - 12

- John 14:1-3

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”



JAMES 1:5 - 12

- Matthew 6:19-21

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”



JAMES 1:5 - 12

3. What We Believe vs.12

- a) God is the one who blesses
- b) Steadfast in Trial
 - seen by God
 - seen by Others
 - Rewarded
- c) God has Promised
 - crown of life - eternal



JAMES 1:5 - 12

So What?

1. All Lack Wisdom
 - much information, difficult application
2. Do We Trust the Source?
 - are we willing to set our anchor?
3. Examining our Scorecard
 - success – by what standard
 - renewing my perspective
4. Claiming the Promise of God



JAMES 1:5 - 12

Heb 12:1-2

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

