

## JAMES

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### **Lesson #10**

### **James 1**

Our study will concern itself more with content than background. But I will state the views considered most likely re. background questions. Written by a brother of Jesus, it was one of the earliest epistles. It is addressed to Christian Jews scattered about among the pagan people of the world (1:1). It is a practical epistle from first to last; it shows the practical application of a Christian's faith to life in the world.

Salutation, 1:1

#### **Proper View of Temptations, 1:2-4**

1. (a) How should a Christian view temptations? (b) Is temptation, then, to be sought after as something to be desire
2. Why should this view be taken of " manifold temptations"?

#### **The need of wisdom, 1:5-8**

1. The subject of temptation (or trial) continues through v18. Consider how v5 relates to the context.
2. What is there about God that encourages us to come to him and ask for what we need?
3. What is absolutely essential to successful prayer?
4. What is a "double-minded man"? (v8; cf. 4:8 in context).

#### **Two men face trial, 1:9-11**

1. The poor brother may be tempted to grumble about his lowly estate. But what alternative view shows more understanding of spiritual realities?
2. While the poor man has been elevated in Christ, the rich man "is made low". Yet this humbling of the rich man is a great advantage to him. In what way?

#### **Straight talk about temptation, 1:12-18**

1. Temptation, of course, may not be a source of joy (v2). It can bring about one's destruction. Who, according to v12, is the person who profits from temptation?
2. What reason is given in v13 that one cannot blame temptation on God?
3. Where does the responsibility for man's trouble really lie?
4. What proof is supplied by vv17,18 that God does not entice us to do evil?

**Attitude toward the word, 1:19-27**

1. Note emphasis on being “slow to speak” (vv19,26). Might this thought (esp. vv19,20) have a close connection with the preceding paragraph (vv12-18) ? Explain.
2. (a) Point to as many details as you can in vv19-27 showing the disciple’s attitude toward the word of God. (b) Who is the person who really profits from the word?
3. The “talker” may attract the most attention to himself, but what is the religion that is pure and undefiled before God?