

## VISION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

### JAMES

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#### JAMES

Number of time James is found in the Scriptures

1. Father of Judas, not Iscariot, who was one of the Twelve, Luke 6: 16
2. Son of Alphaeus who was one of the Twelve, Luke 6: 15
3. The younger, whose mother was a supporter of Jesus, Mark 15: 40
4. Brother of John and son of Zebedee, Matthew 10: 2;
5. First of the apostolic band to be martyred by Herod Agrippa, Acts 12: 1-2
6. The Lord's brother who is believed to be the author of this epistle:
  - a) Believed to be oldest of the Lord's brothers, Matthew 13: 35, who did not believe in him at the beginning of his ministry
  - b) Christ made post-resurrection appearance to him, I Corinthians 15: 7
  - c) Believed to be the head of Jerusalem Church, which was the mother church of the faith at the time
  - d) Paul visited him during his first and last visits to Jerusalem, Galatians 1: 19, Acts 21:18
  - e) After being miraculously released from prison, Peter told believers to inform him of his release, Acts 12: 17
  - f) Made key ruling in apostolic council on circumcision, Acts 15: 13
  - g) Believed to have been martyred around AD 62

#### Main Themes

1. Avoid double-minded faith, (1: 5-8) Difference between faith that seeks understanding or that does not understand and one that doubts
2. God does not tempt anyone (1: 12-16)
3. Hearing and doing the word (1: 19-27)
4. Classism among the saints (2: 1-13)
5. Faith and Works (2: 14-26)
  - a) Faith and giving
  - b) Faith and forgiving, not to be confused with forgetting.
    - 1) Forgiveness is remembering without attitude or "hurt-red"
    - 2) Forgiveness is remembering with thanksgiving for lessons we have learned
6. Taming the Tongue (3: 1-12)
7. Wisdom in Prayer (4: 2b-3)
  - a) Asking for things motivated by the wrong spirit
  - b) Asking but not believing
  - c) Asking for things that will harm us in the long run or that are not in our best long-term interests
  - d) Asking for things for which God has another plan
  - e) Everyone asks amiss at times
    - 1) We must pray for wisdom
    - 2) We must pray for faith to trust when we don't understand

8. The devil is defeated but still discerning. The devil knows when we are sincere in our resistance. (4: 7-10)
9. Beware of the arrogance of riches (5: 1-6)
10. Patience in suffering (5: 7-11)
11. The prayer of faith (5: 13-18)
12. The double blessing of evangelism (5: 19-20)