

# JAMES

## “APPLIED CHRISTIANITY”

“For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.” James 2:26

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
April, 2008  
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## “APPLIED CHRISTIANITY”

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- A1 HANDLING TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS 1:1-18
- A2 USING GOD'S WORD 1:19-27
- A3 THE SIN OF PARTIALITY 2:1-13
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- A5 THE TONGUE 3:1-12
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- A9 INTEGRITY 5:12
- A10 APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO CIRCUMSTANCES 5:13-18

Major Divisions of JAMES  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF JAMES  
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### **A1 HANDLING TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS 1:1-18**

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- B2 Counting It Joy to Undergo Trials / Temptations 1:2
- B3 Gaining Endurance in Trials 1:3-4
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**A7 SPIRITUAL CONFLICT 4:1-17**

- B1 Interpersonal Conflict 4:1-2a
- B2 The Conflict Between Believers and God (Disloyalty) 4:2b-5
- B3 Overcoming Conflict (By Humility) 4:6-17

**A8 WOE TO THE WEALTHY! 5:1-11**

- B1 The Calling of the Rich to Mourn 5:1
- B2 The Catastrophes of the Rich 5:2-3
- B3 The Evils of the Rich 5:4-6
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Condensed Outline of JAMES  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF JAMES  
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## “APPLIED CHRISTIANITY”

“For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.” James 2:26

### A1 HANDLING TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS 1:1-18

#### B1 Introduction 1:1

- C1 The author: James
- C2 The recipients: the twelve tribes dispersed
- C3 The greeting

#### B2 Counting It Joy to Undergo Trials / Temptations 1:2

- C1 The command of joyfulness
- C2 The circumstance of trials

#### B3 Gaining Endurance in Trials 1:3-4

- C1 The awareness of testing as producing endurance 1:3
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#### B4 Asking for Wisdom in Trials 1:5-8

- C1 The shortage of wisdom, 1:5
- C2 The obtaining of wisdom: prayer
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#### B5 Maintaining Perspective in Light of Trials 1:9-11

- C1 The brother of humble circumstances should glory in his high position 1:9
- C2 The rich man should glory in his humiliation, for he will soon fade away like the grass 1:10-11

#### B6 Anticipating Reward from Trials 1:12

- C1 The qualification for being blessed -- persevering under trial
- C2 The reward for being approved: the crown of life

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- C1 What is **not** the source of trials/temptations: God 1:13
- C2 The **real** source of trials/temptations: one's own lust, leading to sin and death 1:14-15
- C3 The source of all **good**: God, the unswerving giver of good, and begetter of Christians to redeem all creation 1:16-18

**A2 USING GOD'S WORD 1:19-27**

**B1 Avoiding A Pitfall – Wrath 1:19-20**

- C1 The common knowledge about wrath 1:19
- C2 The directives concerning wrath 1:19
- C3 The reason for the directives 1:20

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- C1 That which must be put aside to receive God's Word: filthiness and wickedness
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**B3 Doing, Not Just Hearing, the Word 1:22-25**

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- C2 The description of those who only **hear** God's Word: a mirror-user with amnesia 1:23-24
- C3 The description of those who **do** God's Word: observant, obedient, rewarded 1:25

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- C1 Worthless Religion: An unbridled tongue 1:26
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**A3 THE SIN OF PARTIALITY 2:1-13**

**B1 The Injunction Against Partiality 2:1**

**B2 A Hypothetical Case Illustrating Partiality 2:2-4**

C1 The characters: A wealthy and a poor man 2:2

C2 The partisan actions of the church: Ascribing status to the wealthy; inferiority to the poor 2:3

C3 The judgment against the church: Disunifying judges with evil motives 2:4

**B3 The Incongruity of Valuing Wealthy People Over Poor 2:5-7**

C1 The plight of the poor as heirs of the kingdom, yet dishonored by the church 2:5-6a

C2 The oppression by the rich who blaspheme Christ's name 2:6b-7

**B4 The Scriptures and Partiality 2:8-13**

C1 Fulfilling the "Royal Law" ("Love your neighbor as yourself") is good. 2:8

C2 Violating the "Royal Law" by showing partiality constitutes a sin which makes one a transgressor of the whole Law! 2:9-11

C3 Anticipate your own judgment under the Law by showing mercy, obtaining mercy 2:12-13

**A4 FAITH AND WORKS 2:14-26**

**B1 The Basic Question About the Relationship Between Faith and Works: Can a faith devoid of works be a saving faith? 2:14-17**

C1 The question concerning the validity of faith without works 2:14

C2 The illustration of faith without works: the pointlessness of verbalizing provision for the destitute without actually providing 2:15-16

C3 The conclusion about faith without works: It is dead. 2:17

**B2 The Discussion About the Relative Importance of Faith and Works 2:18-20**

C1 The claim of the equal importance of faith and works 2:18

C2 The counter-claim that works are an indispensable evidence of faith 2:18

C3 The absurdity of faith without works as illustrated by demons 2:19

C4 The conclusion about faith without works: "Faith without works is useless." 2:20



**B3 Examples of Faith Accompanied by Works 2:21-26**

- C1 Abraham, whose work of offering Isaac validated his faith and justified him. 2:21-24
- C2 Rahab, whose reception of the messengers justified her, demonstrating the *living* nature of her faith 2:25-26

**A5 THE TONGUE 3:1-12**

**B1 The Caution Against Teaching 3:1-2**

- C1 The warning against teaching 3:1
- C2 The reason for the warning: The stricter judgment of teachers 3:1
- C3 The potential for judgment: Human imperfection 3:2
- C4 The benchmark for perfection: inoffensive speech 3:2

**B2 The Principle Operative with the Tongue: Small entities unduly influence large outcomes. 3:3-5**

- C1 The example of bits and horses 3:3
- C2 The example of rudders and ships 3:4
- C3 The parallel with regard to the tongue 3:5
- C4 The example of fire and forest 3:5

**B3 The Evil (or Dangers) of the Tongue 3:6-12**

- C1 The description of the tongue's evil 3:6-8
- C2 The examples of the tongue's evil: hypocrisy and inconsistency 3:9-12

**A6 WISDOM 3:13-18**

**B1 The Proof of Wisdom 3:13**

- C1 The claim to be wise
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**B2 Earthly Wisdom 3:14-16**

- C1 The indicators of earthly wisdom: Jealousy, ambition, arrogance, and deceit 3:14
- C2 The source of earthly wisdom: not from above, but from the present realm 3:15
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C1 The character of heavenly wisdom 3:17

C2 The activity of those possessing heavenly wisdom: righteousness and peace 3:18

**A7 SPIRITUAL CONFLICT 4:1-17**

**B1 Interpersonal Conflict 4:1-2a**

C1 The Source of Interpersonal Conflict: Hedonism 4:1

C2 The Description of Interpersonal Conflict: The progression of lust and envy 4:2a

**B2 The Conflict Between Believers and God (Disloyalty) 4:2b-5**

C1 As illustrated by ineffective prayer: neglect and wrong motives 4:2b-3

C2 As caused by spiritual adultery through friendship with the world 4:4-5

**B3 Overcoming Conflict (By Humility) 4:6-17**

C1 Repentant submission to God 4:6-10

C2 Refraining from judging 4:11-12

C3 Refraining from boasting 4:13-17

**A8 WOE TO THE WEALTHY! 5:1-11**

**B1 The Calling of the Rich to Mourn 5:1**

C1 The commanded mourning of the rich

C2 The coming misery of the rich

**B2 The Catastrophes of the Rich 5:2-3**

C1 In the present: Decay 5:2-3a

C2 In the future: Judgment 5:3b

**B3 The Evils of the Rich 5:4-6**

C1 Withholding pay 5:4

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C3 Subverting the judicial process 5:6

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- C1 The exhortation to exercise patience 5:7
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- C5 The examples of patience: The prophets and Job 5:10-11

**A9 INTEGRITY 5:12**

- B1 The Prohibition of Oath-taking
- B2 The Examples of Oaths
- B3 The Proper Alternative – perpetual truthfulness
- B4 The Benefit of Perpetual Truthfulness: Avoiding judgment

**A10 APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO CIRCUMSTANCES 5:13-18**

**B1 To That of Hardship -- Prayer 5:13**

**B2 To That of Optimism -- Praise 5:13**

**B3 To That of Stress, Burnout and / or Depression -- the Prayerful Ministry of the Elders 5:14-15**

- C1 The scenario of depression or sickness 5:14
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- C3 The effectiveness of prayer in faith: restoration and forgiveness 5:15

**B4 To That of Sinfulness -- Mutual Confession, Prayer, and Engagement 5:16-20**

- C1 **Confession** -- The exhortation to confess 5:16
- C2 **Prayer** -- The promise of achievement; the example of Elijah 5:16-18
- C3 **Engagement**: The benefit of retrieving straying sinners 5:19-20

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