February 2018 – Education Month

The Epistle of James - Reading Plan



Author: James, brother of Jesus		The	Theme: Faith That Walks				
Date: A.D. 48-62 Key Words: Faith, Riches, Tongue, Pride, Prayer							
Thurs 1st	Fri 2 nd	Sat 3 rd	Sun 4 th	Mon 5 th	Tue 6 th	Wed 7 th	
1:1 - 18	1:17 – 2:9	2:5 - 22	2:21 - 3:12	3:11 – 4:7	4:6 - 5:6	5:7 - 20	
Thurs 8 th	Fri 9 th	Sat 10 th	Sun 11 th	Mon 12 th	Tue 13 th	Wed 14 th	
1:1 - 18	1:17 – 2:9	2:5 - 22	2:21 – 3:12	3:11 – 4:7	4:6 - 5:6	5:7 - 20	
Thurs 15 th	Fri 16 th	Sat 17 th	Sun 18 th	Mon 19 th	Tue 20 th	Wed 21st	
1:1 - 18	1:17 – 2:9	2:5 - 22	2:21 - 3:12	3:11 – 4:7	4:6 - 5:6	5:7 - 20	
Thurs 22 nd	Fri 23 rd	Sat 24 th	Sun 25 th	Mon 26 th	Tue 27 th	Wed 28 th	
1:1 - 18	1:17 – 2:9	2:5 - 22	2:21 - 3:12	3:11 – 4:7	4:6 - 5:6	5:7 - 20	

The Christian Family – Sunday School and Bible Study

Sunday 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th February, 10:30 am to 11:15 am Wednesday 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th February 2018 at 7:30 pm



More Walk In 2018

James 1:22-25

The Epistle of James

Author

The New Testament lists at least five men named James, of whom two were Jesus' disciples and one was His brother. Tradition has ascribed the book to the Lord's brother, and there is no reason to question this. Evidently the writer was well known, and James the brother of Jesus became the leader of the church in Jerusalem at an early date (Acts 12:17; 15:13-21; 21:18; Galatians 1:19; 2:9, 12). The language of the epistle is similar to James' speech in Acts 15. James apparently was an unbeliever during the ministry of Jesus (John 7:3-5). A post-Resurrection appearance of Christ to him (1 Corinthians 15:7) probably led to his conversion, for he is numbered with the believers in Acts 1:14.

Purpose

James is primarily practical and ethical, emphasising duty rather than doctrine. The author wrote to rebuke the shameful neglect of certain Christian duties. In doing so, he analysed the nature of genuine faith and urged his readers to demonstrate the validity of their experience with Christ. His supreme concern was reality in religion and he set forth the practical claims of the gospel.

Personal Application

The book calls for ethical living based on the gospel provides its relevance. James gives a practical exposition of "pure undefiled religion" (James 1:27). His two fundamental emphases are personal growth in the spiritual life and sensitivity in social relationships. Any faith that does not deal with both personal and social issues is a dead faith. The message of James speaks especially to those who are inclined to talk their way to heaven instead of walk their way there.







MEMORY CHALLENGE – to recite on Sunday 25th February 2018

James 1:12 - 27 (NKJV)

Loving God Under Trials

¹² Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

Qualities Needed in Trials

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

Doers—Not Hearers Only

- ²¹ Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
- ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.
- ²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.