

James And Faith

James 1:2-6

Introduction:

- A. James writes about some practical aspects of our faith.
 - 1. Our faith is based on word of God. (Rom. 10:6-8, 17).
 - 2. Our faith is not a dead, but active faith. (Jas. 2:26-28).
- B. James links our faith to other things that need our attention.

Discussion:

II. Faith and Trials (1:2-4).

- A. Our faith can be made stronger by trials.
 - 1. Persecutions at Jerusalem. (Acts 8)
 - 2. Problems at Corinth. (1 Cor. 11:19).
- B. Our faith shows itself best under trial.

III. Faith and Prayer (1:5,6; 5:15).

- A. Prayer is for people of faith. ("righteous man")
- B. Prayer is not a mere ritual to be repeated. (Matt. 6:5ff).
- C. Prayer must be done in faith.
 - 1. It is this kind of prayer that will bring wisdom in trial.
 - 2. It is this kind of prayer that will heal the sick. (5:16).
 - 3. It is this kind of prayer that believes God is able and willing.
- D. Prayer does not require a miraculous answer. (Ch. 5:16-18).

IV. Faith and Materialism. (ch. 2:5).

- A. One's financial worth is not material to our faith.
- B. One who is poor may be rich in faith.
- C. One who is rich must be poor in spirit and rich in good works (cf. 1 Tim. 6:17-19; Matt. 5:3).

V. Faith and Partiality (2:1-9)

- A. Faith will overcome economic discrimination.
- B. Faith will overcome racial discrimination (Acts 10:34-35).

VI. Faith And Works. (Ch. 2:14-26).

- A. A dead faith without works. (vs. 14-17,26).
- B. A living faith shown by works. (vs. 18).
- C. Faith only is devils faith.
- D. Abraham's Faith.

Conclusion:

- A. How strong is your faith under trial?
- B. How strong is your faith in reference to material things?
- C. How strong is your faith in reference to prayer?
- D. How strong is your faith in reference to works?