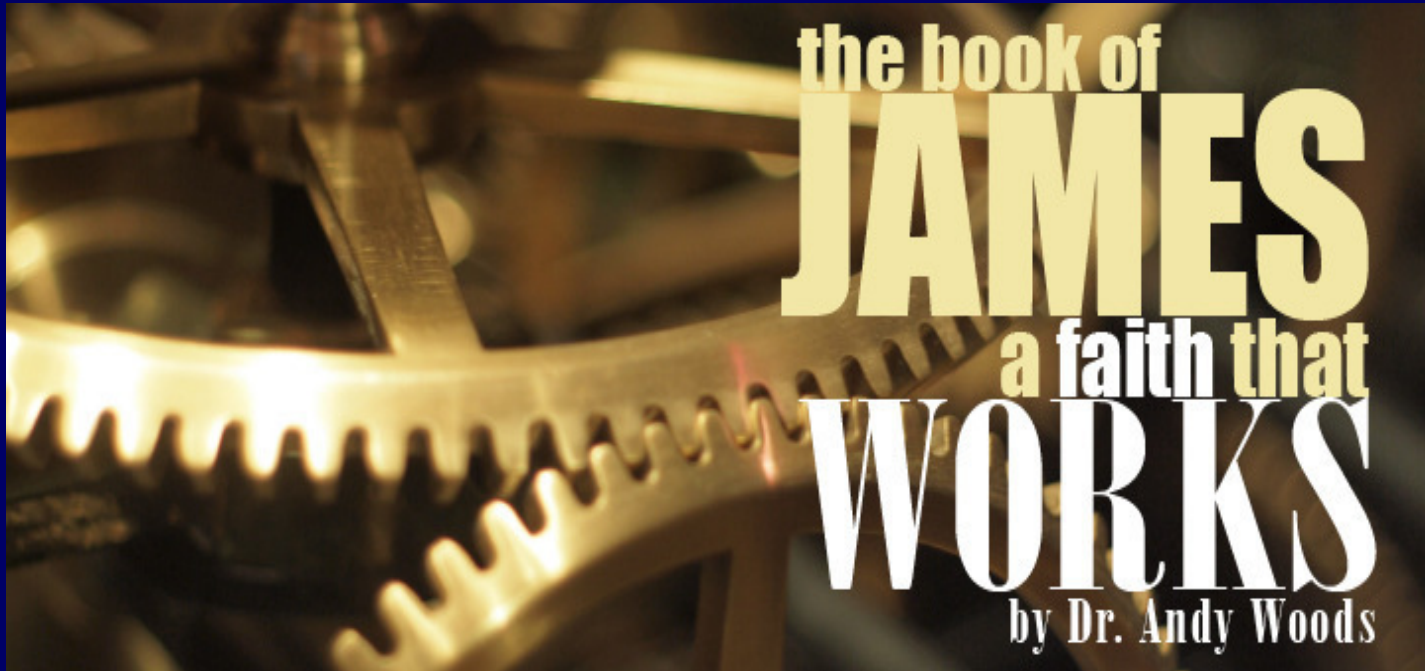


# PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS



**Dr. Andy Woods**

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

# Answering Eleven Questions



- 1) Who wrote it? – James
- 2) What do we know about the author? – Christ's ½ Brother
- 3) Who was the audience? – Believing Jews in the Diaspora
- 4) Where was it written from? – Jerusalem
- 5) When was the book written? – A.D. 44–47
- 6) What was the book's occasion? – Practical righteousness
- 7) What is the book's purpose? – Achieving practical righteousness
- 8) What is the book about? – Practical righteousness
- 9) What is the book's theme? – Daily living
- 10) What makes the book different? – Practicality
- 11) How is the book organized? – Faith and Wisdom

# JAMES STRUCTURE

- I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)
- II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



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# JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
  - ◆ Trials (1:2-18)
  - ◆ Obedience to the Word (1:19-27)
  - ◆ Favoritism (2:1-13)
  - ◆ Faith manifesting works (2:14-26)
  - ◆ Tongue (3:1-12)



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- **Faith (1:1–3:12)**
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# James 1:2-18

- Trials – Jas 1:2-18
  - ◆ Rejoicing during trials – Jas 1:2-12
  - ◆ Command not to charge God with temptation – Jas 1:13-18



# JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
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  - ◆ **Obedience to the Word (1:19-27)**
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  - ◆ Tongue (3:1-12)





# Faith Obeys God

(James 1:19-27)

- I. Need for Slowness in Speaking & Anger (1:19-20)
- II. Need for Obedience to God's Word (1:21-25)
- III. Need for True Religion (1:26-27)



# JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
  - ◆ Trials (1:2-18)
  - ◆ Obedience to the Word (1:19-27)
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  - ◆ Faith manifesting works (2:14-26)
  - ◆ Tongue (3:1-12)



# Favoritism

(2:1-13)

- I. Command: no favoritism (2:1)
- II. Situation: favoritism in the assembly (2:2-3)
- III. Reasoning: favoritism is contrary to God's character & purposes (2:4-13)



# JAMES STRUCTURE

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  - ◆ Tongue (3:1-12)



# Faith Manifesting Works

(2:14-26)

- Thesis: works accompany useful faith (2:14)
- Five illustrations (2:15-26)
  1. Needy brother (2:15-17)
  2. Demonic monotheist (2:18-19)
  3. Abraham (2:20-24)
  4. Rahab (2:25)
  5. Lifeless corpse (2:26)



# JAMES STRUCTURE

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# Taming the Tongue

(3:1-12)

## I. The Tongue's Influence (3:1-5)

A. Teaching (1)

B. All of Life (2)

C. Illustrations (3-5)



## II. The Tongue's Evil Potential (3:6-12)

A. Satanic Potential (6)

B. Untamable (7-8)

C. Inconsistency (9-12)



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# Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	<b>Justification</b>	<b><u>Sanctification</u></b>	<b>Glorification</b>
Tense	<b>Past</b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b>Future</b>
Saved from sin's:	<b>Penalty</b>	<b><u>Power</u></b>	<b>Presence</b>
Scripture	<b>Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5</b>	<b><u>Philip 2:12</u></b>	<b>Rom 5:10</b>
Nature	<b>Single</b>	<b><u>Dual</u></b>	<b>Single</b>

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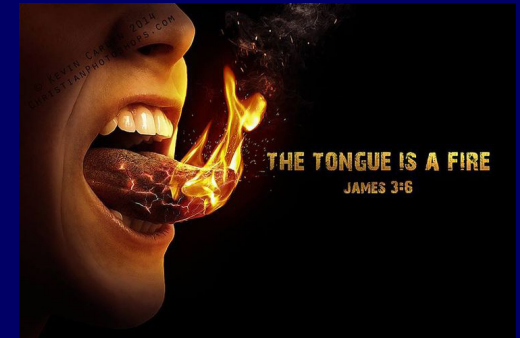
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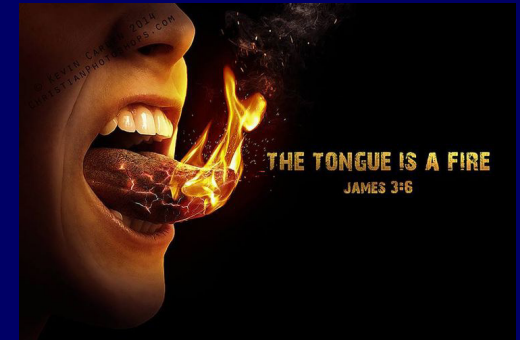
# C. Illustrations

(3:3-5)

1. Bit vs. the horse (3)

2. Rudder vs. the ship (4)

3. Spark vs. the fire (5)



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## Erwin Lutzer

*Hitler's Cross: How the Cross Was Used to Promote the Nazi Agenda (Chicago: Moody, 2016), 83.*

“Earnest Pretzsche...introduced him [Hitler] to a psychedelic drug that produced clairvoyant visions and heightened spiritual perceptions. In this way he was empowered to perform the deeds that he believed fate had decreed. Even those who knew Hitler from his early days were well aware of his occult powers. August Kubizek, a friend, said, ‘It was as if another being spoke out of his body.... It was not a case of a speaker carried away by his own words...I felt as though he himself listened with astonishment and emotion to what broke forth from him.’”

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## B. Untamable

(3:7-8)

1. What man can tame (7)
2. What man cannot tame (8)



## B. Untamable

(3:7-8)

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## B. Untamable

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## C. Inconsistency

(3:9-12)

1) Praises God & Curses Man (9-10)

2) Three Illustrations (11-12)

a) Fresh & bitter water (11)

b) Olives from a fig tree (12a)

c) Salt water from fresh water (12b)



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# Genesis 1:26-28

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” <sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them; and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”



## Genesis 9:6

“Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.”



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# UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS

■ Sermon on Mt

■ Concise

■ OT

■ High quality GK

■ Illustrations from nature & daily living

■ Proverbs & Amos of the NT

■ Undeveloped Christology

■ Imperatives (54)

■ Practical

■ Oldest book in NT

■ Many literary devices

■ Difficult to outline

## C. Inconsistency

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CONCLUSION

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