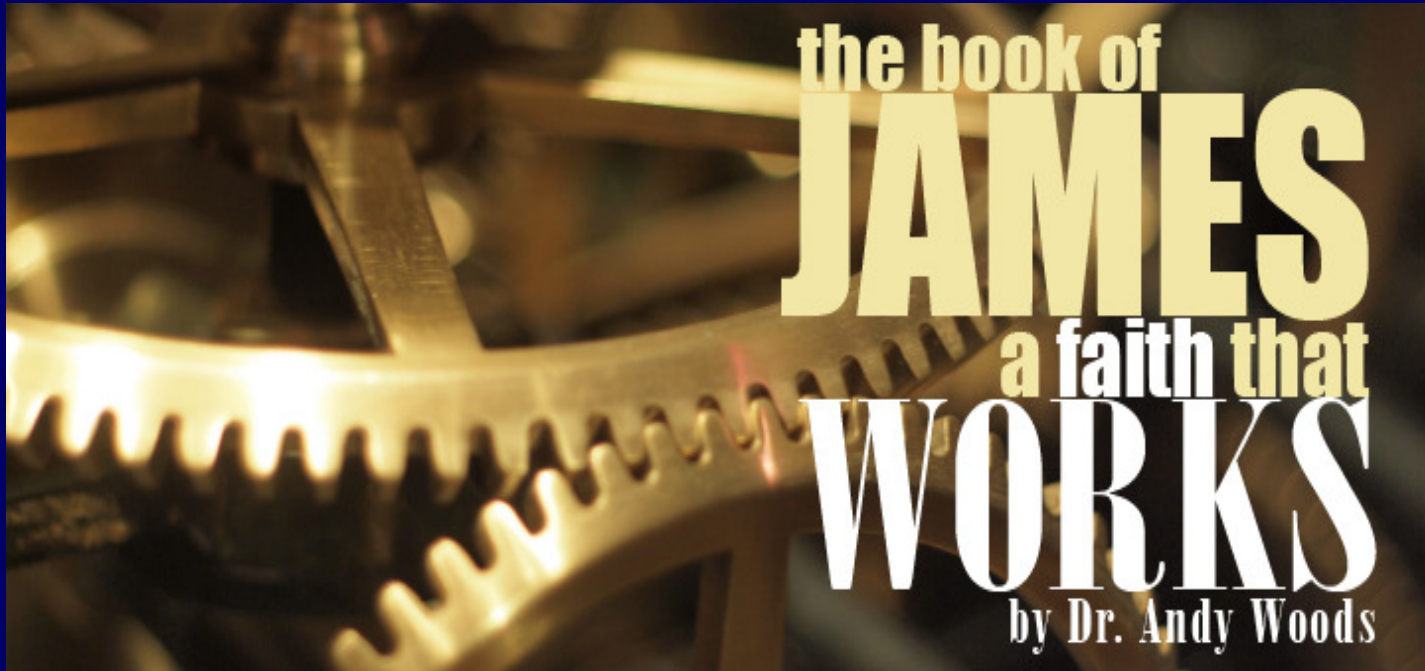


# PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS



**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 1:1

- Salutation – Jas 1:1
  - ◆ Writer – Jas 1:1a
  - ◆ Audience – Jas 1:1b





CASPIAN SEA

CYPRUS

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

SIDON  
TYRE

DAMASCUS

SAMARIA

JERUSALEM

Jordan River

HARRAN

ASSYRIA

NINEVEH

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Euphrates River

BABYLON

Chebar River

BABYLONIA

SUSA

ELAM

UR

CHALDEA

PERSIAN GULF

ARABIAN DESERT

THE CHEBAR RIVER  
Ezekiel 1:1

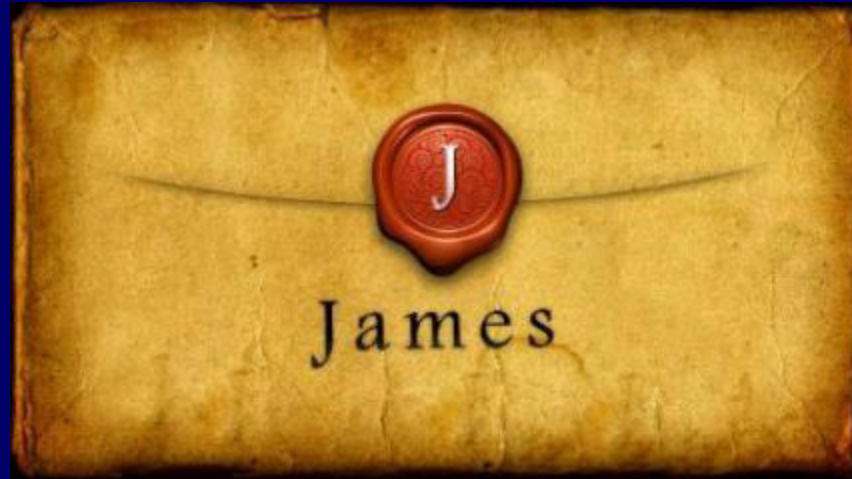
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- I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)
- II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



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- 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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# James 1:12-18

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



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# Why Rejoice During Trials?

(Jas 1:2-12)

- Trials produce patience & maturity (1:2-8)
- Trials produce intimacy & dependence upon God (1:9-11)
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# Scripture's Five Crowns

(Rev 4:10: 3:11; 2 John 8)

<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	<b>CROWN</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
1 Cor. 9:24-27	<b>Incorruptible</b>	Gaining mastery over the flesh
1 Thess. 2:19-20	<b>Rejoicing</b>	Soul winning
Jas. 1:12; Rev. 2:10	<b>Life</b>	Enduring trials
1 Pet. 5:2-4	<b>Glory</b>	Shepherding God's people
2 Tim. 4:8	<b>Righteousness</b>	Longing for His appearing

# James 1:12-18

## ■ Trials – Jas 1:2-18

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# Reasons Why Blaming God is Wrong

(Jas 1:13-18)

- Temptation cannot emanate from God (1:13b)
- Temptation comes from man's fallen nature (1:14-15)
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## Zechariah 14:16-18

“Then it will come about that any who are left of all the nations that went against Jerusalem will go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to celebrate the Feast of Booths. <sup>17</sup> And it will be that whichever of the families of the earth does not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, there will be no rain on them. <sup>18</sup> If the family of Egypt does not go up or enter, then no *rain will fall* on them; it will be the plague with which the LORD smites the nations who do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Booths.”



## Revelation 20:7-9

“<sup>7</sup> When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, <sup>8</sup> and will come out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore. <sup>9</sup> And they came up on the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, and fire came down from heaven and devoured them.”



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# Benjamin Franklin

June 28, 1787; quoted by Albert Henry Smyth, ed., *The Writings of Benjamin Franklin* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1905-7), IX:600-1.

“In this situation of this assembly, groping, as it were, in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, Sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings? In the beginning of the contest with Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayers in this room for the divine protection. Our prayers, Sir, were heard-and they were graciously answered...”



# Benjamin Franklin

June 28, 1787; quoted by Albert Henry Smyth, ed., *The Writings of Benjamin Franklin* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1905-7), IX:600-1.

“I have lived, Sir, a long time; and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that **God governs in the affairs of men.** And **if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice,** is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, Sir, in the sacred writings that **‘except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.’**”





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“I firmly believe this; and I also believe that, without his concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.... I therefore beg leave to move that, henceforth, prayers imploring the assistance of heaven and its blessings on our deliberations be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service.”

CONCLUSION

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