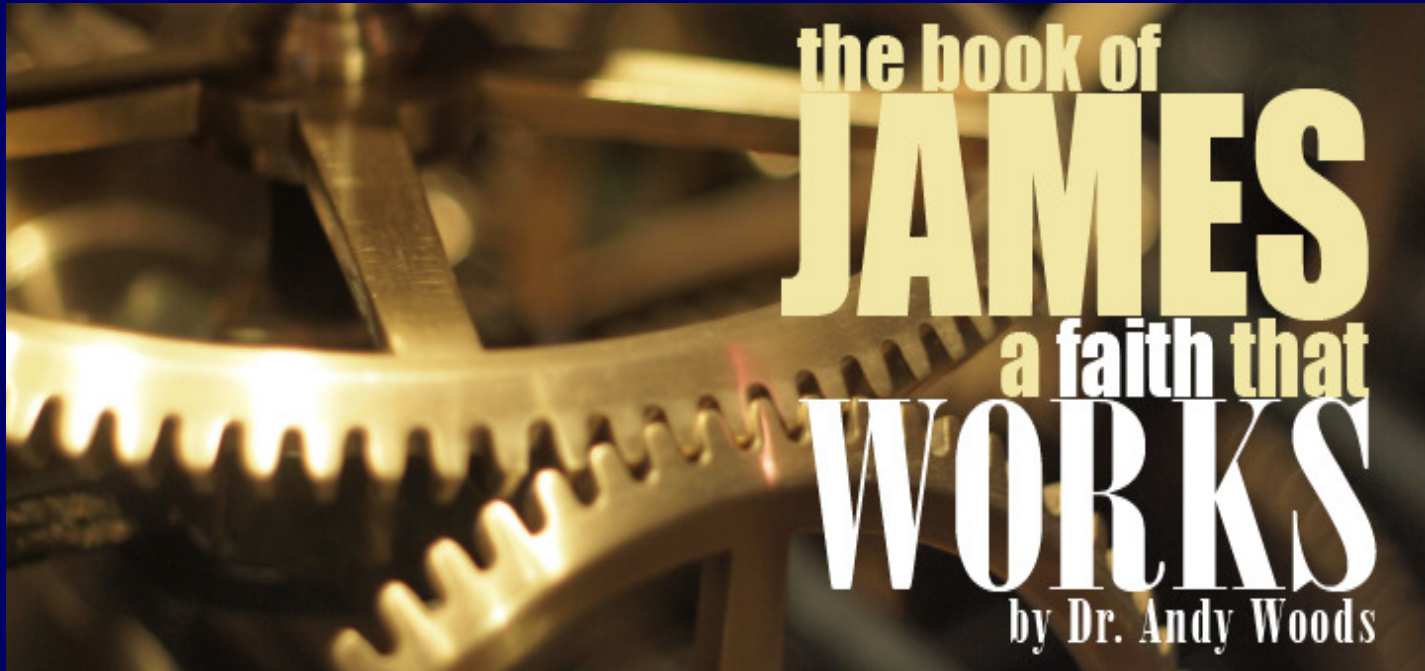


# PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS



**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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- 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 1:2-18

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



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# 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)



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  - ◆ 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)



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  - ◆ Faith manifesting works (2:14-26)
  - ◆ 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)



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

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a) Fresh & bitter water (11)

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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.”



# 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>
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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

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## James 3:14-16

“<sup>14</sup> But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. <sup>15</sup> This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. <sup>16</sup> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.”



# Human or Earthly Wisdom

(3:14-16)

- Jealous (Prov. 6:34)
- Selfish ambition (Prov. 16:18)
- Arrogant (Prov. 8:13)
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## Ecclesiastes 1:9

“That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new under the sun.”



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# Heavenly Wisdom

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## Isaiah 9:6-7

<sup>6</sup> For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.



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CONCLUSION

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