

"Few books have been more maligned than the little book of James. Controversy has waged over its authorship, its date, its recipients, its canonicity, and its unity."

Ronald Blue

"Its practical, non-doctrinal emphasis reveals the kind of message that God wanted to share with the Christian community in published form very soon after Jesus ascended to heaven."

I. Jensen

5 JAMES

- Son of Zebedee Mt 4:21, Act 12:2
- ➤ Son of Alphaeus Mk 3:18
- Father of Judas Lk 6:16
- >James the Less Mt 27:56
- > Half-brother of Jesus Mt 13:55

JAMES 1

>Author - Jesus' Half-brother

AUTHORSHIP

>Internal Evidence

INTERNAL

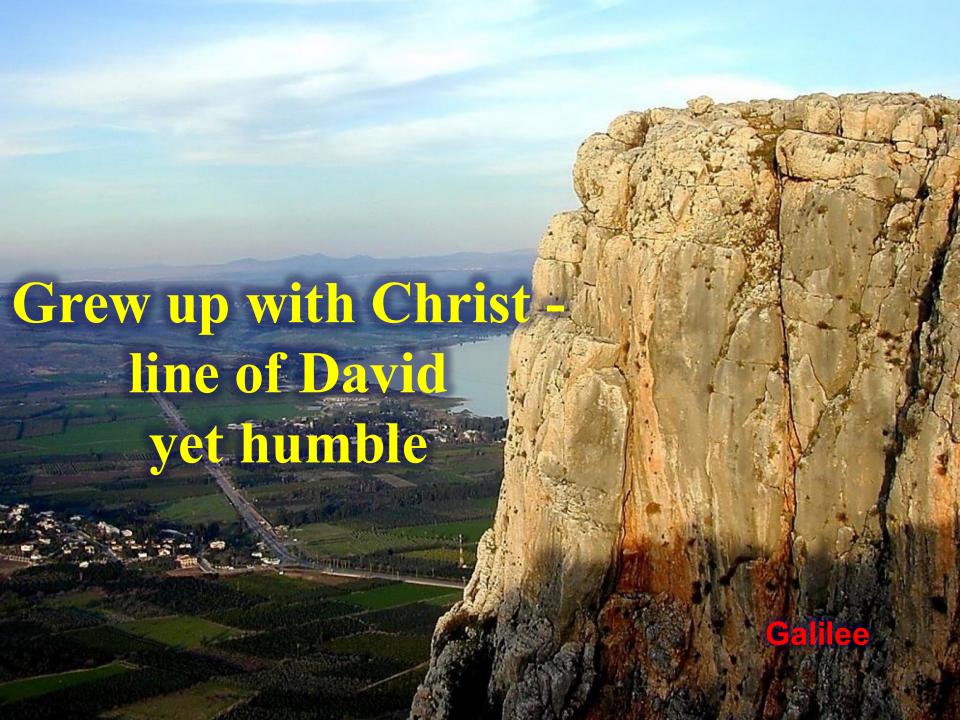
- 1. Jerusalem Council Act 15
- 2. Jesus' words/teaching
- 3. Consistent with what we know

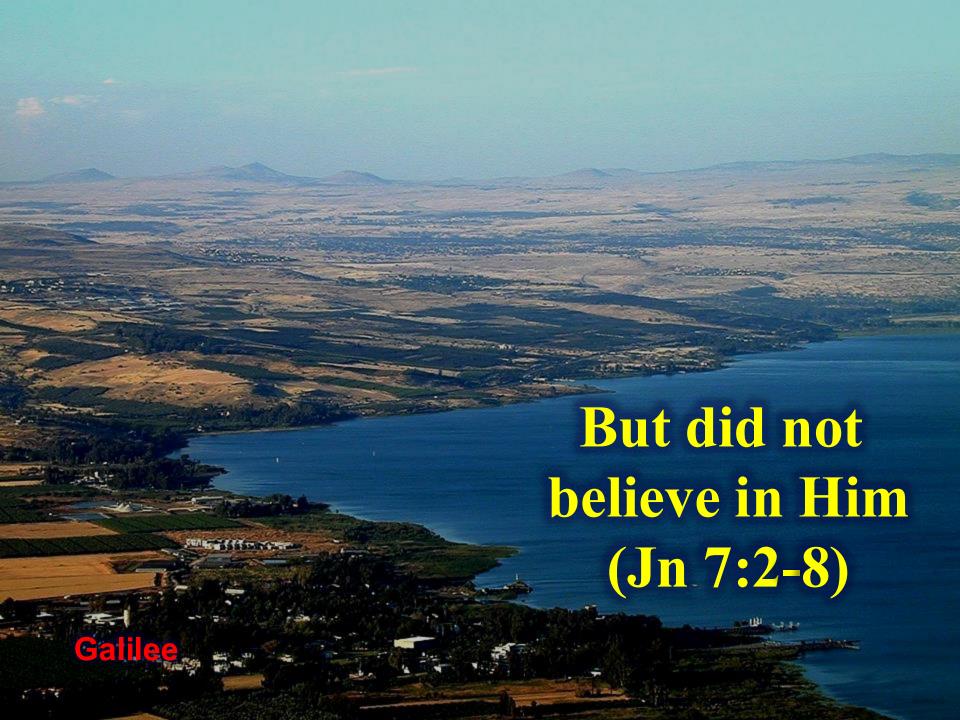
AUTHORSHIP

- >Internal Evidence
- >External Evidence

EXTERNAL

- 1. 3rd century Origen, Eusebius
- 2. Later fathers Cyril of Jerusalem, Athanasius, Augustine
- 3. Against Luther





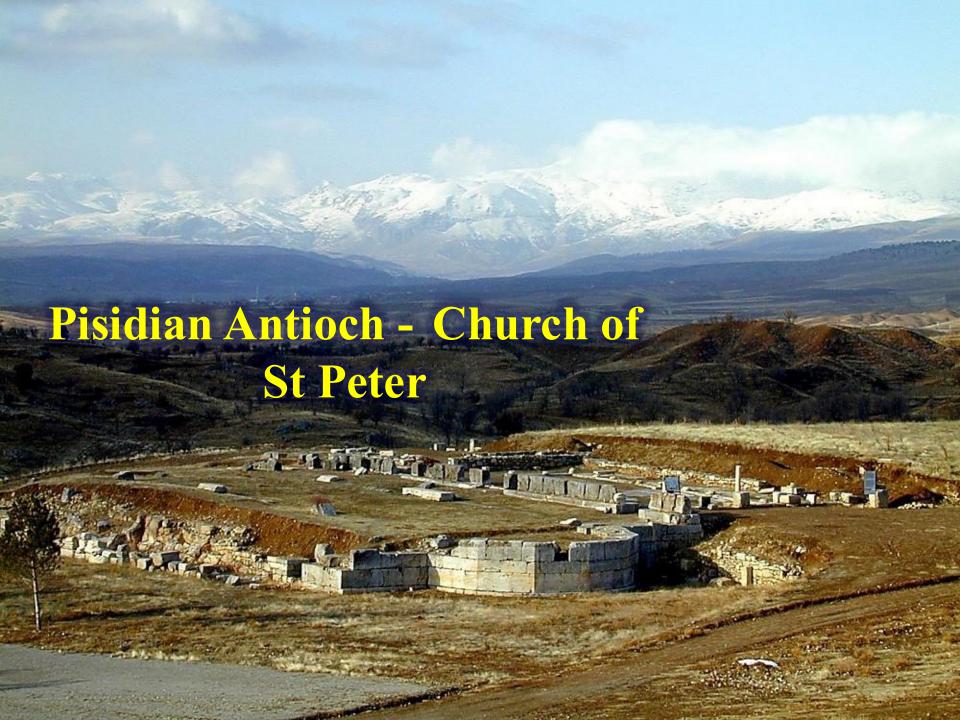
THE MAN JAMES

- 1. Name = Jacob
- 2. Brother of Jesus = same parentage
- 3. Jewish background = lineage
- 4. Unbeliever before Resurrection
- 5. Leader of Jerusalem church (Act 15)
- 6. Tradition stoned AD 62, Act 12:2

JAMES

- >Author Jesus' Half-brother
- > Audience Dispersed Jewish Christians











JAMES

- >Author Jesus' Half-brother
- > Audience Dispersed Jewish Christians
- > Occasion 44-47

OCCASION

- >Christianity spreading
- > Persecution of Christians
- > James discovered condition of Church

ACTS HISTORY

T Pentecost
Conversion of Pau

Cornelius

40

James Martyred

1st Journey
2nd Journey
3rd Journey

50

Rome

60

Acts

Peter Martyred

Paul Martyred Jerusalem Destroyed

70

Hebrews

James

JAMES 1

- >Author Jesus' Half-brother
- > Audience Dispersed Jewish Christians
- >0ccasion 44-47
- > Location Jerusalem
- >Purpose Practical

PURPOSE

To promote proper living under persecution

(1:2-4)

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Response to Trials
- 2. OT Emphasis

OT EMPHASIS

- >12 tribes -
- >Terms -
- > Characters -

- > Allusions -
- > Jewish Setting

- 1:1
- 2:2, 8-12, 4:11, 5:4
- Abraham, Rahab, Job, Elijah
 - 53 OT books

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Response to Trials
- 2. OT Emphasis
- 3. Related to Jesus' Ministry

JESUS MINISTRY

JAMES

1:2

1:4

1:5, 4:3, 5:15

1:9, 2:5

1:22

2:14-26

3:12

4:11-12

JESUS

5:10-12

5:48

7:7-11

5:3

7:24, 26

7:21-23

7:16

7:13

Divine Wisdom

CHARACTERISTICS

- 1. Response to Trials
- 2. OT Emphasis
- 3. Related to Jesus' Ministry
- 4. Very Practical

PRACTICAL

- **✓ Dealing with trials**
- ✓ Need for wisdom
- **✓ Double-mindedness Corrected**
- ✓ Meeting practical needs
- **✓** Proper attitude to clothes
- **✓** Faith that works
- **✓** Proper speech
- **✓ Dealing with greed & pride**
- **✓** Correcting of abuses of poor
- ✓ Need for patience

- 1:2-4
- 1:5
- 1:6-8
- 1:26-27
- 2:1-9
- 2:14-26
- 3:1-12
- 4:1-12
- 5:1-6 **5:7-11**

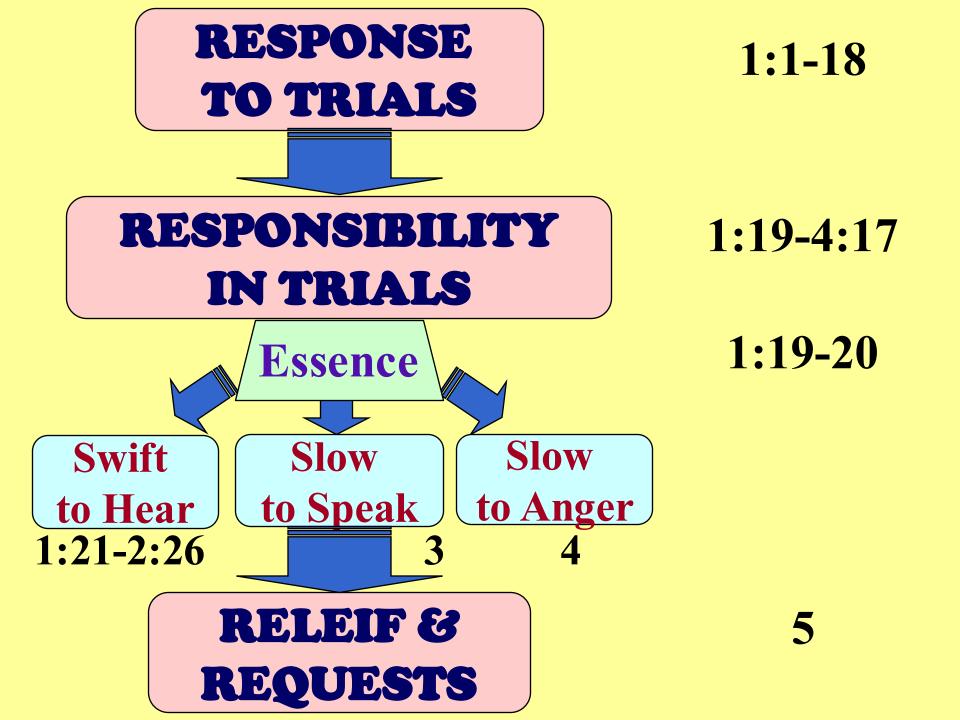


OUTLINE

- I. Response to Trials 1:1-18II. Responsibility in Trials 1:19-4:17
- III. Relief & Requests in Trials 5

MAIN IDEA

The response, responsibility, and relief of the believer in trials



OUTLINE

I. Response to Trials

A. Introduction

1:1-18

1:1

1:1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

- I. Response to Trials
 - A. Introduction
 - **B.** Value of Trials

- 1:1-18
- 1:1
- 1:2-4

1:2-4 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

I. Response to Trials	1:1-18
A. Introduction	1:1
B. Value of Trials	1:2-4
C. Praying for Wisdom	1:5-8

1:5-6 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

1:7-8 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

I. Response to Trials	1:1-18
A. Introduction	1:1
B. Value of Trials	1:2-4
C. Praying for Wisdom	1:5-8
D. Attitude of Contentment	1:9-11

1:9-10 But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position; 10 and the rich man is to glory in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away

1:11 For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

I. Response to Trials	1:1-18
A. Introduction	1:1
B. Value of Trials	1:2-4
C. Praying for Wisdom	1:5-8
D. Attitude of Contentment	1:9-11

E. Trusting Character of God

1:12-18

1:12-13 Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once 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 being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

1:14-16 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. 15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

1:17-18 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. 18 In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

GOD'S NATURE

- Faithful 1:12
- >Holy 1:13
- **Pure -** 1:13
- **>Good** 1:17
- Creator 1:17
- >Immutable 1:17
- **Savior -** 1:18



RESPONSE TO TRIALS

1:1-18

RESPONSIBILITY IN TRIALS

Essence

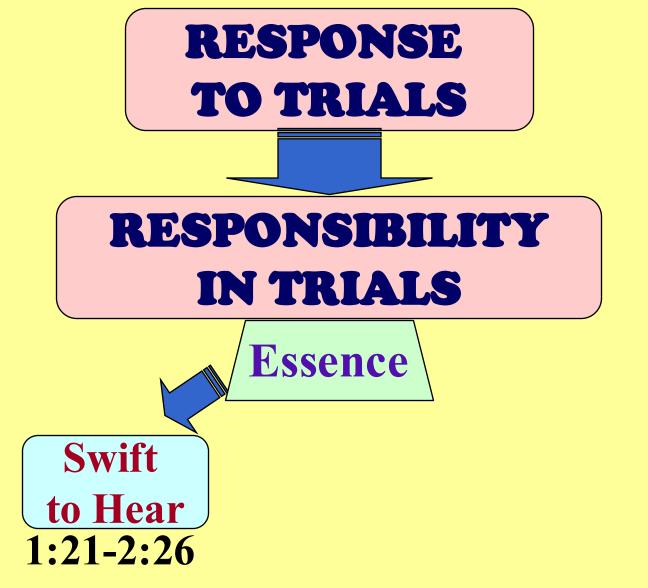
1:19-4:17

1:19-20

- I. Response to Trials
- II. Responsibility in Trials
 - A. Essence of Responsibility

- 1:1-18
- 1:19-4:17
 - 1:19-20

1:19-20 This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.



1:1-18

1:19-4:17

1:19-20

- I. Response to Trials
- II. Responsibility in Trials
 - A. Essence of Responsibility
 - B. Be Swift to Hear
 - 1. Hearing Involves Doing
 - a. Performance of Word

- 1:1-18
- 1:19-4:17
 - 1:19-20
- 1:21-2:26
 - 1:21-27
 - 1:21-25

1:21-22 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. 22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

1:23-24 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

1:25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

- I. Response to Trials 1:1-18
- II. Responsibility in Trials 1:19-4:17
 - A. Essence of Responsibility 1:19-20
 - B. Be Swift to Hear 1:21-2:26
 - 1. Hearing Involves Doing 1:21-27
 - a. Performance of Word 1:21-25
 - b. Practice of True Righteousness

1:26-27

1:26-27 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless. 27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

I. Response to Trials	1:1-18
II. Responsibility in Trials	1:19-4:17
A. Essence of Responsibility	1:19-20
B. Be Swift to Hear	1:21-2:26
1. Hearing Involves Doing	1:21-27
2. Hearing Includes Attitudes	2:1-13
a. Rebuke on Partiality	2:1-4

2:1 My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism.

2:4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

1:1-18 **Response to Trials** Responsibility in Trials 1:19-4:17 A. Essence of Responsibility 1:19-20 B. Be Swift to Hear 1:21-2:26 1. Hearing Involves Doing 1:21-27 2. Hearing Includes Attitudes 2:1-13 a. Rebuke on Partiality 2:1-4 **b.** Reasons for Condemnation 2:5-13

2:9-10 But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.

- II. Responsibility in Trials
 - A. Essence of Responsibility
 - B. Be Swift to Hear
 - 1. Hearing Involves Doing
 - 2. Hearing Includes Attitudes
 - 3. Hearing Includes Faith
 - a. Proposition

- 1:19-4:17
 - 1:19-20
- 1:21-2:26
 - 1:21-27
 - 2:1-13
 - 2:14-26
 - 2:14-17