



THE BOOK OF  
**JAMES**  
OUTLINE

**An Outline of the 2016 study  
at An Carraig Bible Study**



## A Short History of James

First, we need to set aside our preconceived ideas and traditions and allow the Bible to speak for itself. The reason is because the Bible is written specifically to teach us and to correct wrong ideas and wrong teaching.

**2 Timothy 3:16** *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.”*

The whole Bible from front to back, Genesis to Revelation, was given by God through men, in order to correct and instruct us. So we need to allow it to do just that, and as Romans 3:4 teaches... *“God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.”* So we need to study and look at the Bible with an open mind and heart, setting aside our assumptions and traditions, and allow the scriptures to teach, or correct us (if needed).

Who is James?

**Galatians 1:19** *“But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother.”*

In this verse, the Bible teaches that James was the half brother of the Lord Jesus Christ. Some might argue this point, and it could be debated if this was an isolated verse, but this fact is evidenced through many other scriptures.

These verses include **Matthew 12:46-49; Matthew 13:55; Mark 3:31-34; Mark 6:3; Luke 8:19**, which all refer to Jesus having brothers and sisters.

In addition to these verses we need to also consider the following evidence for the literal accuracy of Galatians 1:19. Although, Mary was indisputably a virgin at the birth of Jesus, the Bible is clear that she did not maintain that virginity throughout her life. This is evidenced, not only through the verses previously mentioned, but also in the following...

### **Matthew 1:24-25**

**24** Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: **25** And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

“*Knowing*” your wife (ref. Matt.1:25) in the Bible, always refers to the physical relations between man and wife. (ie. **Genesis 4:1, 17, 25**). Jesus is also referred to as Mary’s “firstborn” son, not her “only” son in **Luke 2:7**. Through the study of scripture, it is clear who James was and what his relationship was with the Lord Jesus Christ.

James also was not an apostle, but he did become a well respected leader in the Jerusalem church (**Acts 15:14-21, 21:18**). Then according to Josephus (a first-century Romano-Jewish scholar, historian and hagiographer), James died around 64 AD from stoning at the hands of the Jewish Sanhedren.

The book of James was the first written document in the New Testament. It was written at the time between Acts 11 and 12, to the believing and unbelieving Jews who were scattered throughout Palestine and the mediterranean.

## **Chapter 1**

### Christian Battles

Verse 1 Introduction (who the letter was written to).

Verse 2-16 Dealing with trials & temptations.

### The Bible

Verse 17-25 Need for the Word of God in a Christians life.

Verse 26-27 Pure religion.

## **Chapter 2**

### Treatment of Other Believers

Verse 1-8 Respect of persons.

Verse 9-13 God's commands and the Christian life.

### Christian Life

Verse 14-26 The need for works with our faith.

## **Chapter 3**

### Christian Behaviour 3:1-4:12

Verse 1 A warning to teachers.

Verse 2-12 General teaching about the tongue.

Verse 13-18 Sin of the Mind - Worldly vs. Godly wisdom

## **Chapter 4**

Christian Behaviour (Continued 1-12)

Verse 1-5 Sin in our Members

Verse 6-10 Sin in the Life Resisted

Verse 11-12 Sin in the Life Rejected

Boasting 4:13-5:6

Verse 13-17 Boasting about our Plans

## **Chapter 5**

Verse 1-6 Boasting about Prosperity

Burdens

Verse 7-11 Burden of Poverty

Verse 12 Burden of Proof

Verse 13-18 Burden of Prayer

Verse 19-20 Burden for People



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