



Encouraged by Daily Christian Living

September 13-December 27, 2017

Introduction

- Read
- James from the Message
- Important Facts:
 - Author: James, brother of the Lord
 - Date: A.D. 44-48
 - Occasion: leader of Jerusalem church writes to diaspora members

JAMES 

Recipients of the Letter

- **1:1—twelve tribes—scattered, diaspora**
- **Poor (5:1-11)**
- **Hauled into court by the wealthy (2:4-6)**
- **Oppressed by large land owners (5:5-6)**

JAMES 

Recipients of the Letter

- Typical difficulties faced by exiles
- 1:10 some rich in the church
- James is one of the General Epistles
- Different from Paul's individual epistles

JAMES 

Genre of James

- **Dibelius—Moral Exhortation**
- **Has four main features**
 1. **focuses on moral exhortation**
 2. **attention to general situations**
 3. **use of traditional material**
 4. **loose organization (unifying theme?)**

JAMES 

Genre of James

- **Wisdom literature**
- **James refers to wisdom twice: 1:5; 3:13-18**
- **Reminds us of style of Proverbs**
- **Heavenly wisdom vs. earthly wisdom**



Interesting features to consider

- *Synagogue*—2:2, assembly, meeting; early Jewish Christian meeting
- Christian maturity
- Double-mindedness (1:8; 4:8 solo)
- Rich and poor
- Temptations
- True Religion



Interesting features to consider

- “Doing” and faith
- Takes discrimination head on
- Royal law
- Monotheism—one God (2:10)
- Demons and Satan
- Controlling the tongue

