

JAMES

Chapter 1:5-16

“God Has a Plan!”

Review:

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

When you hit a trial or hard time, what is one of the first questions we ask? “WHY?”

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

These passages are rich with practical instruction for life

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom.....

This is like saying, “If you don’t understand or if you don’t know what to do”

- Wisdom is more than knowledge
- Wisdom is knowing how to apply knowledge

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, **let him ask of God....**

- Why is this important?
- It is usually the last thing we do

God’s response:

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, **that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.**

Liberally = bountifully

Upbraideth not = The proper meaning of the Greek word is to rail at, reproach, revile, chide

PROMISE: “....and it shall be given him.”

Jeremiah 29:12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

There are some instructions that go along with this....

- Sometimes people say, "I asked God...He didn't show me anything"

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

If you are asking God, you have to trust Him

He gives this simile – A comparison using like or as

James 1:6bFor he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

WARNING:

James 1:7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

Faith is required!

- God can't work in a situation where there is not trust!

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is **impossible to please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that **diligently seek him**.

James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Double Minded = Unstable

James 1:9 Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

The phrase "of low degree" means one in humble circumstances; one of lowly rank or employment; one in a condition of dependence or poverty.

James illustrates this with a Simile:

James 1:10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. 11 For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

TEMPTATION = a putting to proof (by experiment (of good), experience (of evil), solicitation, discipline or provocation); by implication, adversity:--temptation, X try.

BLESSED = fortunate, well off:-- blessed, happy

ENDURETH = to stay under (behind), i.e. remain; figuratively, to undergo, i.e. bear (trials), have fortitude, persevere:--abide, endure, (take) patient(-ly), suffer, tarry behind.

James 1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: **for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

CROWN OF LIFE = The prize for life (A generic way of describing rewards in eternity)

James 1:12bfor when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, **which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

WARNING:

James 1:13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

James 1:14 But **every man** is tempted, **when** he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

DRAWN AWAY = It begins by us turning from what is right

ENTICED = to entrap, i.e. (figuratively) delude:--allure, beguile, entice. – Taken with the bait!

James 1:15 Then **when lust hath conceived**, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Conceived = to clasp, i.e. seize (arrest, capture); specially, to conceive (literally or figuratively); by implication, to aid:--catch, conceive, help, take.

Example: David and Bathsheba

KEY to VICTORY = ABSTAIN

1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

Abstain - to hold oneself off, i.e. refrain:--abstain. --- from 575 and 2192; (actively) to have out, i.e. receive in full; (intransitively) to keep (oneself) away, i.e. be distant (literally or figuratively):--be, have, receive.

1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

Satan's goal:

James 1:15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, **when it is finished, bringeth forth death.**

James 1:16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.