

Faith that Works

January 7, 2007

“Meet James, A Man with a Different Perspective”
James 1:1-4

1. The Writer

1:1a – *“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”*

a. The half – _____ of Jesus Christ

2. The Readers

a. 1:1b – *“To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations”*

Faith is Not

- Faith is not _____
- Faith is not _____
- Faith is not quoting Hebrews 11:1

Faith Is:

the sight of the soul, the eyes of the spirit, seeing something that isn't there – is there – because it ought to be there.

Living by Faith Is:

TAKING GOD AT HIS WORD AND ACTING UPON IT

“I know” the problems in my life are designed to:

1. _____ my faith
2. _____ my patience
3. _____ my character

Idea: I am able to consider even the pain in my life a joy, in that it is making me more like Jesus Christ.

Going Deeper

1. If you had an older brother living in Chicagoland, claiming to be God, how would you feel?
2. The book of James provides practical answers to everyday experiences. In fact, James addresses twelve specific problems you may be facing. Can you name them?
3. How does suffering provide value in our life? (vs. 2-4)
4. How would you define "perseverance?" Can you give an example of this with your own experiences? (vs. 3)
5. How can you help an individual going through a difficult time?
6. Every one of us will face trials or temptations; some of them will be major. As you discover God's perspective, what does he say about your attitude and actions when you face:
 - ✓ A financial crisis
 - ✓ Unjust criticism
 - ✓ A business problem
 - ✓ Sexual temptation
 - ✓ A neighborhood conflict
 - ✓ A natural disaster
 - ✓ A social misunderstanding
 - ✓ Bitterness
 - ✓ A materialistic attitude
7. Living by faith is "taking God at his word and acting upon it." What word from God do you need to believe and act upon?

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