

March 4, 2007

James Chapter 1

Faith is the absolute confidence that God is who He **says** He is and God will do what He has **promised** to do.

The fact that our faith is being tested implies there is a tester and reveals that God is in **control**.

Unless we value the **glory** of our Lord more than anything else, then the trials of life will eventually **break** us.

Wisdom is God giving you the understanding needed to **live** life for His glory – how to act, what to do, in the midst of the trial.

To believe means:

- We ask out of a faith that manifests itself in **action**.
- We ask having **already** decided to do what God says in response.

All our resources are in God. Don't let the earthly replace the eternal as the source of **security**.

God is going to reward with eternal life those who **demonstrated** that they had true salvation and therefore true faith by **preserving** through trials.

Three reasons why God is not at fault when we are tempted:

- 1) By nature, all evil **repulses** God and can find no place in his Holy character.
- 2) Every **good** and perfect gift comes from above.
- 3) The nature of salvation shows that when God touches your life, it is to produce **life**, not death; to produce righteousness, not **sin**.

Those who hear the Word and never **do** what it says, no matter what they claim, are not true believers.

God's truth **governs** your life whether you acknowledge it or not.

The only value of being in the Bible is if it makes you **different** everywhere else.

Religion (the external practices of worship) only has value when it is a true expression of **authentic** worship of God.

It is not our **perfection** that proves our salvation, but rather our hating our imperfections and **seeking** with God's help and power to correct them.

Don't settle for **worthless** religion.