

MARCH

March 1 – James 1 (if time, read all 5 chapters) Who is the author? (See Matt. 13:55; 1 Cor. 15:7; Gal. 1:19; 2:9; Acts 12:17; 15:13; and Jude 1) What authority would he have?

March 2 – James 1:1-8 – develops perseverance Why would James say “to the twelve tribes scattered a g the nations”? What kinds of trials were they facing? What are we “lacking”? What can we do about it? When is doubt okay? When is it wrong? What is a “double-minded” person?

March 3 – James 1:9-12 – high & low positions - When is pride okay? What makes it sinful? What is the warning to the proud who is rich? Is the warning different from the proud who is poor?

March 4 – James 1:13-15 – God tempts no one - Why do we blame God when bad things happen? Why don't we give God the credit when good things happen? What do we know about temptations?

March 5 – James 1:16-18 – Every good gift - Why are we deceived? How are we deceived? What does it mean to be “a kind of first-fruits of all He created”? What difference does this make / should this make?

March 6 – James 1:19-21 – quick... slow - How are you quick? How are you slow? When is each one the proper way to be? How is God's righteous life brought about in our lives?

March 7 – James 1:22-27 – Do it! - How do we deceive ourselves? What does this teach about “the mirror of God's Law”? How does “the perfect law” give freedom? How can we “keep a tight rein on our tongue”? What is religion that God accepts?

March 8 – James 2 (if time, read all 5 chapters) - How would you summarize the book of James (all 5 chapters) in one sentence?

March 9 – James 2:1-7 – no favoritism - Why do we tend to show favoritism? Why doesn't God show favoritism? How can we be more like God in our dealings / feelings toward others?

March 10 - James 2:8-13 – stumbles at just one point - What is the “royal law”? Why is it called “royal”? Why do we want to pick and choose what parts of the Law we seek to obey? How does “the law give freedom” as well as “judges”? How does “mercy triumph over judgment”?

March 11 – James 2:14-19 – faith and deeds - How do faith and deeds work together? What is “living faith”? What is “dead faith”? What kind of “faith” do the devils also have? What benefit is that kind of faith?

March 12 – James 2:20-27 – not by faith alone - What makes the reader “foolish”? How was Abraham “considered righteous”? By his faith or by his actions? (or both?) What is the important message of being “justified by what he does and not by faith alone”? Isn't this contrary to Romans 3:28?

March 13 – James 3 (if time, read all 5 chapters) Have you noticed the “opposites”? high / low positions; listening / doing; faith / deeds; earthly wisdom / heavenly wisdom; proud / humble; laughter / mourning; yes / no; trouble / happy...

March 14 – James 3:1-12 – taming the tongue – Why will teachers be judged more strictly? Who is a “teacher”? How can we “tame” our tongue? What interesting comparisons!

March 15 – James 3:13-18 – heavenly wisdom – who is “wise and understanding”? How is this very different from the world’s definition? How does the “wisdom come from heaven”? How can we be “peacemakers”?

March 16 – James 4 (if time, read all 5 chapters) – What were some major issues that James addresses in these chapters? How do we see them in our day also?

March 17 – James 4:1-6 – friendship with God – What causes fights and quarrels? How can they be avoided / resolved? “Adulterous people”? Is this true? Note: “But He gives us more grace”! How do we daily benefit from His grace?

March 18 – James 4:7-12 – He will lift you up – What does it mean to “submit”? What does it mean to be “double-minded”? How does the Lord, “lift us up”? What does it mean to “judge our neighbor”?

March 19 – James 4:13-17 – this life is a mist – How full is your calendar of things you have planned? What do these verses say about our plans? What should they include? How “misty” is your life?

March 20 – James 5 (if time, read all 5 chapters) – What did you read this time through all 5 chapters that you didn’t notice the first 4 times? (God’s Word is wonderful – always more precious “gems” every time we read it!)

March 21 – James 5:1-6 - warning to the rich – Why the warning to the rich? Is it wrong to be rich? What is the definition of being “rich”? What temptations come especially to those who are rich?

March 22 – James 5:7-12 – Patience in suffering – What does it mean that farmers are “patient”? Was Job really “patient” in his suffering? What is God’s message through these examples? “Do not swear” – how is this possible? Why only can obey this?

March 23 – James 5:13-18 – Prayer and praise – Why / when should we pray? What is “anoint with oil in the name of the Lord”? What “healing” is this talking about? What does the example of Elijah give us about prayer?

March 24 – James 5:19-20 – care for brother & sister – Who are “my brothers”? Who does that include today? How are these verses a great summary of the entire book?

March 25 – Jude (Judas) – brother of James (and Jesus) – see Matt. 13:55 – What do we know about Jesus’ brothers – Jn. 7:3-10; Acts 1:14. Why would Jude call himself a “brother of James” and not a “brother of Jesus”?

March 26 – Jude 1-4 – contend for the faith – What are the 3 descriptive words about those to whom Jude is writing? How are these true for you too? What is “the faith once for all entrusted to the saints”? Is there another “faith”? How are there “certain men... slipped in a g you” still in the church today?

March 27 – Jude 5-11 – examples to us – What are the 3 examples he uses of warning against eternal fire? How are these similar? How are they very different? How are these examples still around today? In v.8 what 3 things do they do? In v.11, what “woes” are called down upon them? How are these also examples of what is happening today?

March 28 – Jude 12-16 – 6 graphic metaphors – What is the negative message in each of these metaphors? Again – what are some modern-day examples? (What can we learn from the Apocryphal book of Enoch?) Note v.15: “ungodly... ungodly... ungodly...” – see again v.4.

March 29 - Jude 17-23 – Warnings – (see 2 Peter 3:3) – What measure can they use to know how to judge leaders against them? What does this say to us, personally, today? What are the 3 ways that we are guarded and “built up in the holy faith”? v.22-23 – what a difference between “scoffers” and these described here! What does it mean “hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh”?

March 30 – Jude 24-25 – To Him Who is able! – see also Rom. 16:25; 2 Cor. 9:8; Eph. 3:20 for more examples of these blessings. What are examples of where these passages would be of great comfort?.

March 31 - James and Jude – How does God the Holy Spirit use both of these brothers of Jesus? Knowing that they were not “one of the twelve apostles”, what does this remind us today?