

James is the author

*Jas 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord  
Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:  
Greetings.*

James brother of John apostle – not the author.  
son of Zebedee and Salome martyred AD 44

Mar 3:17 James the son of Zebedee and John the  
brother of James (to whom he gave the name  
Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder);

Act 12:2 He killed James the brother of John with  
the sword,

James the Less an apostle Mk  
3:18 son of Alphaeus – very little  
known from the Scriptures  
Mar 3:18 Andrew, and Philip, and  
Bartholomew, and Matthew, and  
Thomas, and James the son of  
Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon  
the Zealot,

## James brother of Jesus

Mat 13:55 Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas?

A non-believer until after Jesus' death Joh 7:5 For not even his brothers believed in him.

– Then a pillar of the church **Gal 2:9** and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

Written to Jews not in Jerusalem – thus most probably from James, the brother of the Lord

Act 21:18-20 On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. (19) After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. (20) And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,

*Jas 1:2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,*

Here we have **troubles**

**1Co 10:13** No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

1Pe 1:5-6 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (6) In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,

Act 14:22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

*Jas 1:3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.*

## **There will be temptation**

Rom 5:3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

1Pe 5:8 Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.



*Jas 1:13-15 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. (14) But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. (15) Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.*

God does not tempt us but allows us to be tempted

Peter is an example

Luk 22:31 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat,

lust is not necessarily a sin  
Luk 22:15 And he said to them, "I  
have earnestly desired to eat this  
Passover with you before I suffer.  
*Gr epithumia – strong desire, lust*

- a strong desire Mt 5:28 II Tim 2:22  
Gal 5:16

*Jas 1:4 And let steadfastness have its  
full effect, that you may be perfect  
and complete, lacking in nothing.*

**result of endurance is maturity  
(perfection)**

*Jas 1:16-18 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. (17) Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (18) Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.*

every perfect gift comes from God

*Jas 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.*

**wisdom to overcome sin -- from His word!**

1Co 2:6-7 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. (7) But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

*Jas 1:19-25 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; (20) for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. (21) Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. (22) But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

*(23) For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. (24) For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. (25) But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.*

We must be obedient hearers

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me,  
'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of  
heaven, but the one who does the will of  
my Father who is in heaven.

Rom 2:13 For it is not the hearers of  
the law who are righteous before God,  
but the doers of the law who will be  
justified.



Rom 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? (2) By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

Rom 6:14 For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

**not our will but His**

Mic 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*Jas 1:6-8 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.*

*(7) For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; (8) he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.*

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

*Jas 1:9-11 Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, (10) and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. (11) For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.*

**We must set priorities not based on  
circumstance**

Abraham didn't doubt despite his  
circumstance

Rom 4:20 No unbelief made him  
waver concerning the promise of  
God, but he grew strong in his faith  
as he gave glory to God,

*Jas 1:26-27 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. (27) Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.*

We must use what God has given us and not look to others to fulfill our responsibilities as some did.

Php 3:17 Brothers, join in imitating me,  
and keep your eyes on those who walk  
according to the example you have in us.  
(18) For many, of whom I have often told  
you and now tell you even with tears,  
walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.  
(19) Their end is destruction, their god is  
their belly, and they glory in their shame,  
with minds set on earthly things.