

# BIBLE STUDY

WITH GREG WASINSKI

*The Book of*  
**JAMES**



## SUMMARY:

The book of James is more of a bit of a “gut-check” to the Christian. It not only calls to mind the work we need to be doing to help bring about the Kingdom of God, but the author also reminds us about intent. How do we do what we do? What is the attitude we have while doing it? Do we actively listen, or do we just hear words? There is a responsibility in the manner that we live faith that shows God who we truly are.

## RELATED SCRIPTURES & REFERENCES:

**James Introduction: Author | Date | Nature | Audience | Theme**

**James: Chapter 1**

**IS 49:1-6 | 1PT 1:6-7 | 1KINGS 3:5-12 | MT 4:1 | LEV 23:9-11 |**

**Catechism of the Catholic Church #’S – 1 | 1655 | 2633 | 2847 | 2208**

## **GOT A MINUTE? BY GREG WASINSKI – CHAPTERS RELATING TO JAMES 1**

**James 1:2–4** - *"Consider it all joy, my brothers, when you encounter various trials..."*

Book connection: **Perfectly Imperfect**

**James 1:5** - *"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God..."*

Book connection: **WISDOM** (Gifts of the Spirit)

**James 1:19–20** - *"Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger..."*

Book connection: **Truth and Love**

**James 1:22** - *"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..."*

Book connection: **Faith as the Crust**

**James 1:27** - *"Religion that is pure and undefiled..."*

Book connection: **Acts of Charity and Love Wins**



## **REFLECTION QUESTIONS:**

**1. What challenge or trial are you facing right now that you would never choose for yourself... and what if God is trying to do something through it instead of simply removing it?**

*We spend a lot of time asking God to take difficult things away. James asks us to consider whether God might also be using those moments to grow something within us.*

---

**2. Where in your life do you know the right thing to do, but struggle to actually live it out?**

*James reminds us not to simply be hearers of the Word, but doers. Faith becomes real when it moves from our heads into our actions.*

---

**3. What is competing for first place in your life right now?**

*Is it success? Fear? Money? Approval? Comfort? Relationships? None of these are bad things—but sometimes good things quietly begin taking God's place.*

---

**4. When pressure enters your life, what naturally comes out of you?**

*Think about your words, attitude, reactions, patience, or choices. Pressure doesn't create what is inside us—it often reveals what is already there.*

---

**5. If someone watched your life for one week—not just your Sunday morning, but your real life—what evidence would they see that faith actually matters to you?**

*Would they see hope? Kindness? Peace? Forgiveness? Prayer? Compassion? Or would your faith be difficult to notice?*

# BOOK OF JAMES” – INTRODUCTION



## AUTHOR

- People still debate this
- James the Just
  - What Scripture tells Us
    - Brother of Jesus (GAL 1:19 | MK 6:3)
    - Witness to the Resurrection (1COR 15:7)
  - Stoned in 62AD (Killed by a Jewish High Priest)

## DATE

- Early 60s on author assumptions

## POWER

- Shows that the early church is carrying on beyond the ORIGINAL 12.
- The author is a witness to all of this happening

## AUDIENCE

- 12 Tribes of “Dispersion” – Living beyond the borders of Israel
  - Hebrew Christians
- Sidenote:
  - Paul writes to one church at a time. The seven epistles writers (Including James) write to the larger church and groups. The catholic (universal) church.

## THEME

- Ethical Catechesis – Moral & Spiritual Instruction
- Echoes a lot of Jesus’ direct teachings
- Aligns confession & conduct
- Assumes Jesus will return soon or already has returned

# BOOK OF JAMES” – CHAPTER 1



## 1. VERSE 1

- a. Relates to **IS 49:1-6**
  - i. About restoring everyone scattered
- b. “Family” – See **CCC #1 (Catechism of the Catholic Church)**

## 2. VERSE 2

- a. Every struggle is a chance to prove faith
  - i. Closer to perfection – See **1PT 1:6-7**

## 3. VERSE 5

- a. WISDOM – Gift of the Spirit (this is POST Pentecost)
- b. **CCC #2633** – Pray at ALL times
- c. Soloman – He had a quest for PERFECT Wisdom - See **1Kings 3:5-12**
  - i. Book of Wisdom about Soloman
    - 1. Not in Protestant Canon

## 4. VERSE 8

- a. “DOUBLE MINDED”
  - i. My favorite verse
  - ii. Literally means – Having TWO SOULS

## 5. VERSE 10

- a. Nothing material will last it all goes away – see **IS 40:6-8**
- b. Rich is not bad – IF you are a good steward and place it over nothing else.

## 6. VERSE 13

- a. Only Satan would tempt a person
  - i. **MT 4:1**
- b. God will never ask anyone to sin – you cannot right a sin with another sin.
  - i. **CCC #2847**

## 7. VERSES 2-15 Overview

- a. We will be pruned (**See JN 15:2**)

## 8. VERSE 18

- a. “First Fruits”
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> sheaf of spring wheat cut from the field – cut and then offered to God in the Temple
  - ii. A tithe to thank God and offer a blessing for an abundant harvest – see **LEV 23:9-11**

## 9. VERSES 19-25 Overview

- a. *What are we saying?*
  - i. This is a strong message we’ve missed. Some in the church do not understand the message they preach and how it it misrepresents what Christ calls us to be as Church.

**10. VERSE 19**

- a. *Quick to Hear / Slow to Speak / Slow to Anger*
  - i. How are we handling these three aspects of life?

**11. VERSES 22-24**

- a. Accountability Mirror
  - i. We must remove the fog and see ourselves from the inside out AND outside in.

**12. VERSES 26-27**

- a. Religion – Greek word is ***Threskeia***
  - i. Means an act of worship
    1. What do we do outside Mass and Worship to show people our “religion?”
    2. Our Identity with the religion is connected directly to CHARITY
    3. See **CCC #2208**

“WHAT IS INWARD SHOULD BE DISPLAYED OUTWARD”