



James Lesson 3

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 1 & 2

In his letter to the new Jewish believers, James is addressing certain problems that seem to have infiltrated the church in response to the persecution against them. To James, faith is a practical endeavor with real and tangible outward evidence of the new man in Christ. This would have been in contrast to the “faith” of that day within the hierarchy of the Jewish religion. Faith then seemed to be evidenced more by keeping the Law outwardly, which produced pride and self-righteousness in contrast to works of love born out of inward transformation to the character of Christ.

In speaking to his Jewish brethren in Chapter 1, James identifies true believers as those that persevere through trials and temptations. They also strive to control their tongues, hear and obey the Word,

show care and compassion for orphans and widows, and strive for personal purity while in the world.

In Chapter 2, they are instructed to treat one another as equals and not rely on religious ceremony for salvation. True faith reveals itself in actions that manifest the character of the Spirit of God that lives within them.

Chapter 3 reveals James’ practical approach to holy living. Authentic Christianity is manifested by what we say not just what we do. He stresses the reality of our arch enemy, “the tongue,” and expresses how controlling it can be a most difficult, but necessary, undertaking. What we say reveals what is in our hearts; therefore, much attention should be given to what comes out of our mouths.

READ JAMES 3

1. *Why would teachers be held to a higher standard? 3:1*

Prayer requests:

Group time notes:
