

REAL FAITH FOR THE REAL WORLD

The Book of James

PART 3

WISDOM FROM ABOVE

Turning to and Trusting in a Generous God
(James 1:5-8)

INTRODUCTION:

PREVIOUSLY: THE OVERVIEW...

1. THE STRUCTURE OF JAMES' EPISTLE:

- **Chapter 1: Five Significant Themes Introduced...**
- **The Five Themes of Chapter 1: Real Faith and...**
 - ...our Experience of Trials.
 - ...our Need of Maturity.
 - ...our Dependence on God's Wisdom.
 - ...our Relationship with Wealth.
 - ...our Response to God's Word.
- **Chapters 2-5: Twelve Specific Teachings Unfolded...**

2. THE SHAPING OF JAMES' EPISTLE:

- **The Wisdom Literature:**
- **The Sermon on the Mount:**

PREVIOUSLY: THE FIRST IMPERATIVE...

1. WHAT WE NEED: A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON TRIALS AND TESTING (1:2)

"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials..."

2. WHAT WE KNOW: THE DIVINE PURPOSE IN TRIALS AND TESTING (1:3)

"...knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance."

3. WHAT WE EMBRACE: THE PERFECTING PROCESS IN TRIALS AND TESTING:

"...so that you may be perfect and complete..."

- **DON'T JUST TOLERATE THE TRIAL, TREASURE IT!**

TODAY: THE SECOND IMPERATIVE...

1A. _____ DO WE _____ WISDOM? (1:5a)

“But if any of you lacks wisdom,...” (v. 5a)

- It is difficult to act wisely when you are in the heat of a _____ — when have been _____ or _____, or when you are _____ and _____ with what God is doing

2A. _____ DO WE _____ WISDOM? (1:5b)

“...let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

- First, ... where we _____ find it!

¹⁵ “This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above...”

—James 3:13-18

- Second, ... where we _____ :

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

—Proverbs 9:10

- It begins with a proper _____ for Him and a passionate _____ of Him.

3A. _____ DO WE _____ WISDOM? (1:6-8)

“But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

1B. The _____ :

2B. The _____ :

3B. The _____ :

CONCLUSION: