

REAL FAITH FOR THE REAL WORLD

*The Book of James*

PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

PASTORING IN ABSENTIA

*The Backstory to the Book of James*

*(James 1:1)*

INTRODUCTION:

1A. MEET THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND HIS STORY. (1:1A)

*“James, a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,...”*

—James 1:1a (LSB)

- *Who is this James?*

*“But I did not see any other of the apostles except **James, the Lord’s brother.**”*

—Galatians 1:19

1B. His Early Years: The \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 13:53-58; Mark 3:31-35; John 7:1-9)

*“Is not this the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers, James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this man get all these things?’ And they took offense at Him.”*

—Matthew 13:55-57

*“Then His mother **and His brothers** arrived, and standing outside they sent word to Him and called Him. A crowd was sitting around Him, and they said to Him, ‘Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are outside looking for You.”*

—Mark 3:31, 32

*“Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near. Therefore His brothers said to Him, ‘Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing. For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be known publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world.’ **For not even His brothers were believing in Him.**”*

—John 7:2-5

2B. His Middle Years: The \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 1:14; 1 Corinthians 15:6-8)

“These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”

—Acts 1:14

“After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.”

—1 Corinthians 15:6-8

3B. His Later Years: The \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 12:17; 15:1-29; 21:17-19; Gal. 2)

“But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had led him out of the prison. And he said, ‘Report these things to James and the brethren.’ Then he left and went to another place.”

—Acts 12:17

“...and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, James and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. They only asked us to remember the poor – the very thing I also was eager to do.”

—Galatians 2:9, 10

“All the people kept silent, and they were listening to Barnabas and Paul as they were relating what signs and wonders God had done through them among the Gentiles. After they had stopped speaking, James answered, saying, ‘Brethren, listen to me.’”

—Acts 15:12, 13

“After we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. And the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.”

—Acts 21:17, 18

2A. MEET THE \_\_\_\_\_ AND THEIR STORY. (1:1B)

“To the twelve tribes who are in the Dispersion.”

—James 1:1b (LSB)

“And on that day a great persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.”

—Acts 8:1b

CONCLUSION: