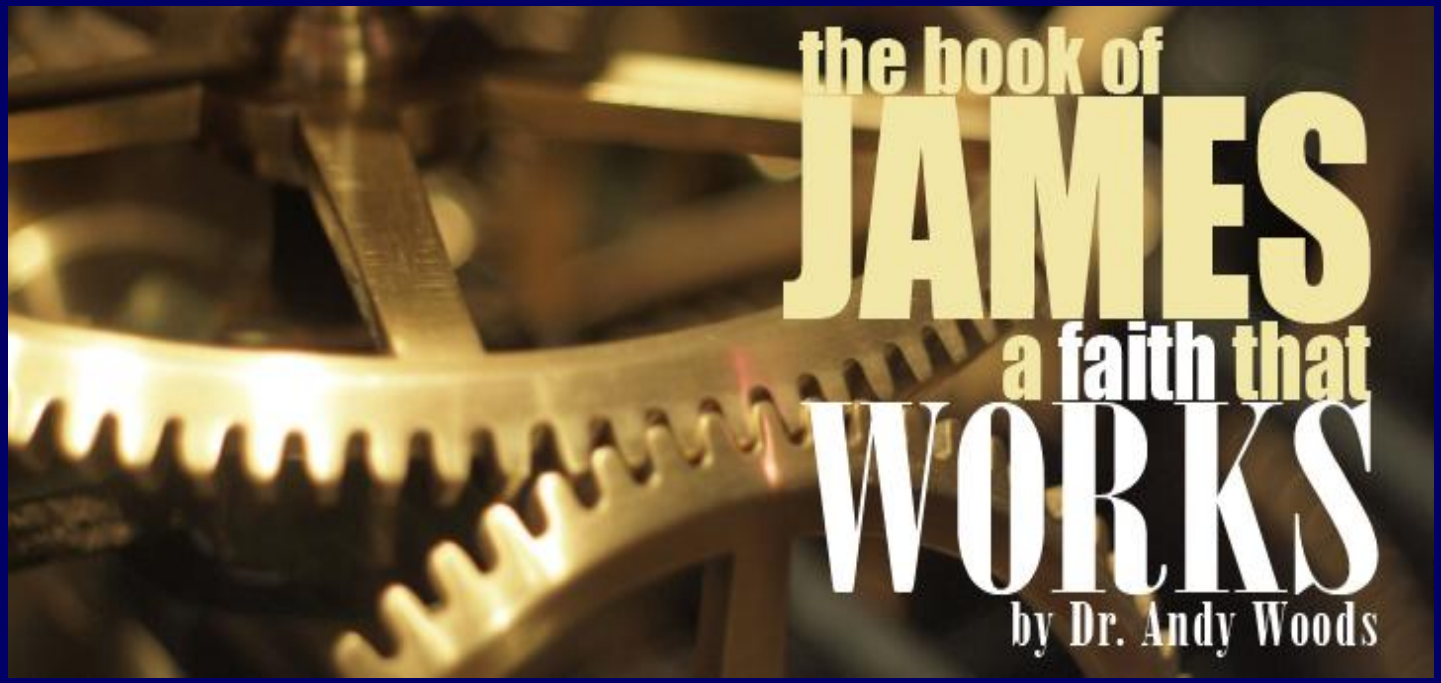
PRACTICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS





Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Answering Eleven Questions



1) Who wrote it? – **James**
2) What do we know about the author? – **Christ's ½ Brother**
3) Who was the audience? – **Believing Jews in the Diaspora**
4) Where was if written from? – **Jerusalem**
5) When was the book written? – **A.D. 44–47**
6) What was the book's occasion? – **Practical righteousness**
7) What is the book's purpose? – **Achieving practical righteousness**
8) What is the book about? – **Practical righteousness**
9) What is the book's theme? – **Daily living**
10) What makes the book different? – **Practicality**
11) How is the book organized? – **Faith and Wisdom**

JAMES STRUCTURE

I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)

II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



JAMES STRUCTURE

I. **<u>Faith (James 1:1–3:12)</u>**

II. Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)



JAMES STRUCTURE

- Faith (1:1–3:12)
  - Trials (1:2-18)
  - Obedience to the Word (1:19-27)
  - Favoritism (2:1-13)
  - Faith manifesting works (2:14-26)
  - Tongue (3:1-12)



JAMES STRUCTURE

I. Faith (James 1:1–3:12)

II. **Wisdom (James 3:13–5:20)**



Structure

- **Wisdom (3:13–5:20)**
  - Wisdom defined (3:13-18)
  - Spirituality (4:1-12)
  - Commerce (4:13-17)
  - Use of wealth (5:1-6)
  - Waiting for the Lord's return (5:7-12)
  - Prayer (5:13-18)
  - Restoration of the erring brother (5:19-20)



Structure

- **Wisdom (3:13–5:20)**
  - **<u>Wisdom defined (3:13-18)</u>**
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Wisdom
(3:13-18)

- Wisdom is demonstrated by her actions (3:13)
- Human or earthly wisdom (3:14-16)
- Heavenly wisdom (3:17-18)



Structure

- Wisdom (3:13–5:20)
  - Wisdom defined (3:13-18)
  - **Spirituality (4:1-12)**
  - Commerce (4:13-17)
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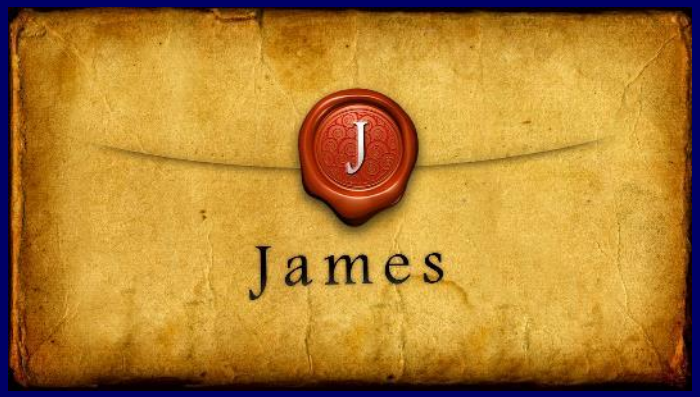


Spiritual Life
(4:1-12)

I. Avoid wrangling (4:1-3)

II. Avoid worldliness (4:4-6)

III. Essence of spiritual wisdom (4:7-12)

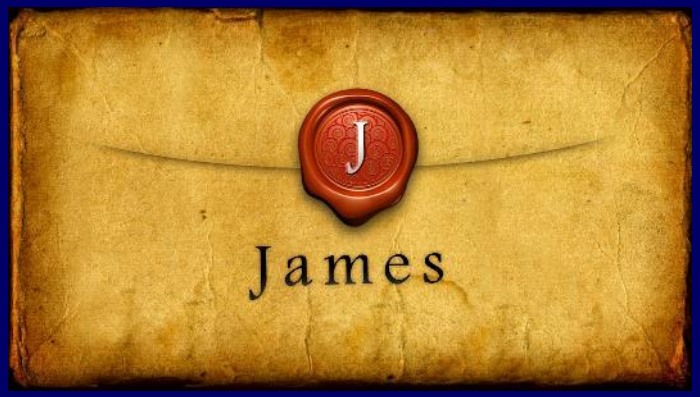


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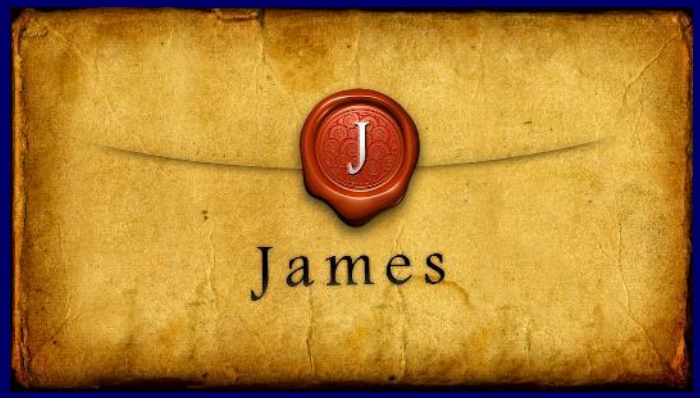
III. Essence of spiritual wisdom (4:7-12)



I. Avoid Wrangling
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A. The problem (4:1a)

B. The source (4:1b-3)



1. Internal (4:1b-2a)

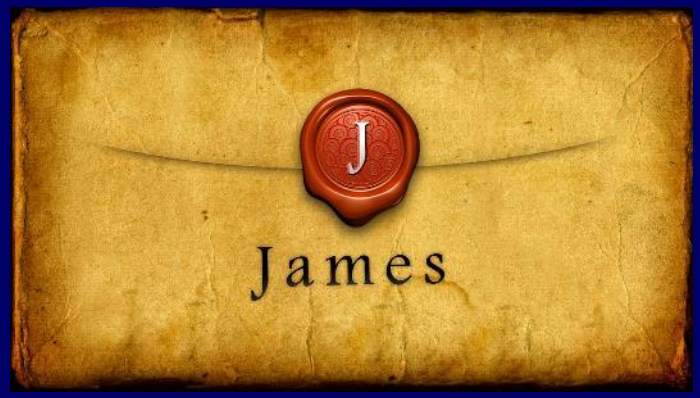
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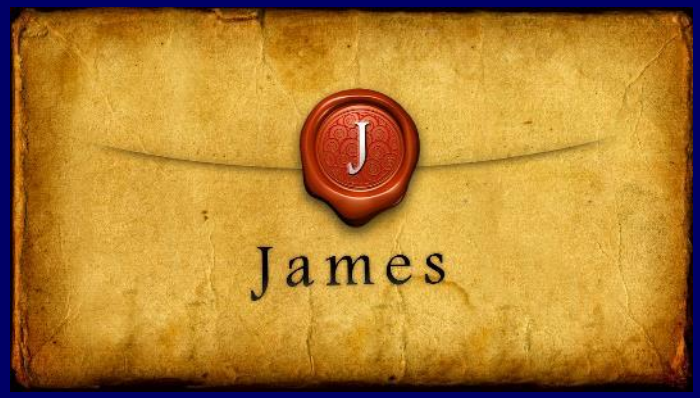
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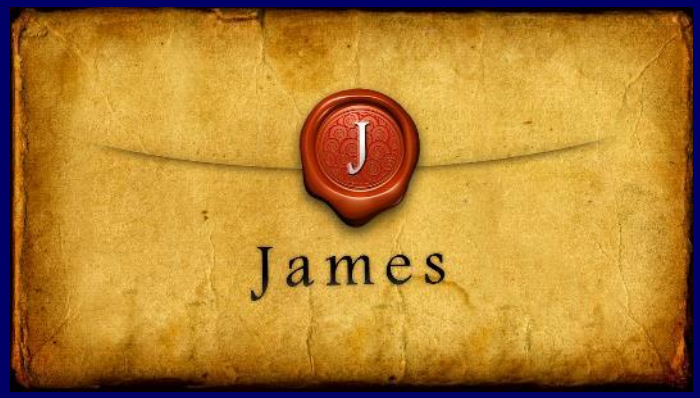
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Mark 7:20-23

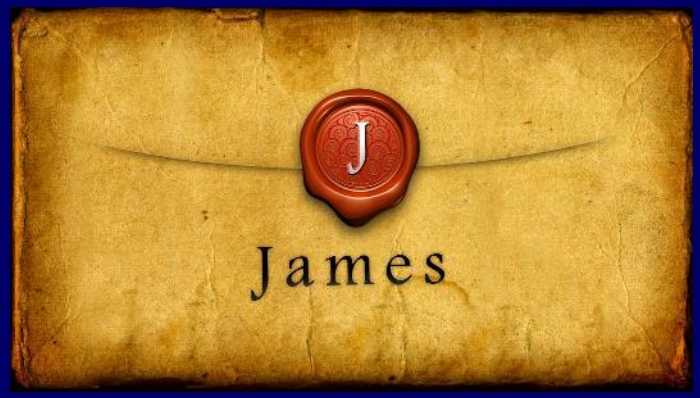
“[20] And He was saying, ‘That which proceeds **out of the man**, that is what defiles the man. [21] For **from within, out of the heart** of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, [22] deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. [23] All these evil things **proceed from within** and defile the man.’”



I. Avoid Wrangling
(4:1-3)

A. The problem (4:1a)

B. The source (4:1b-3)



1. Internal (4:1b-2a)

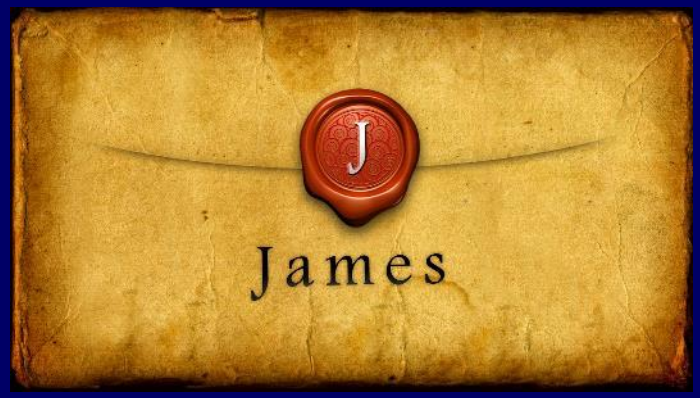
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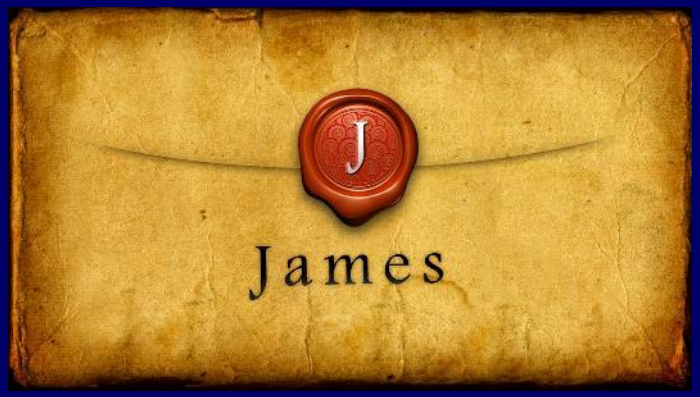
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Spiritual Life
(4:1-12)

I. Avoid wrangling (4:1-3)

II. **Avoid worldliness (4:4-6)**

III. Essence of spiritual wisdom (4:7-12)



Names & Titles Demonstrating Satan's Post-Fall, Earthly Authority

(Job 1:7; 2:2; Luke 4:5-8; Rom. 8:19-22)



- Prince of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- God of this age (2 Cor. 4:4)
- Prince and power of the air (Eph. 2:2)
- Who the believer wrestles with (Eph. 6:12)
- Roaring lion (1 Pet. 5:8)
- Whole world lies in his power (1 John 5:19)

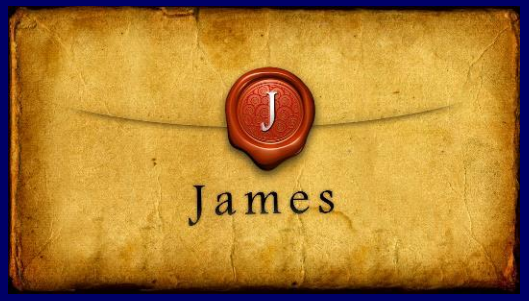
II. Avoid Worldliness
(4:4-6)

A. The Consequences (4:4-5)

1. Enmity against God (4:4)

2. Alienation of the Holy Spirit (4:5)

B. The Cause (4:6)



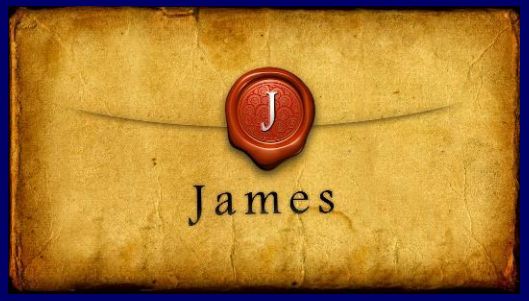
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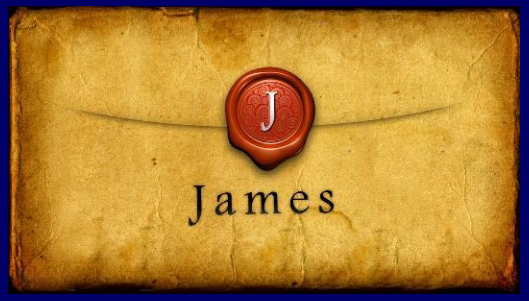
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A. **The Consequences (4:4-5)**

1. **<u>Enmity against God (4:4)</u>**

2. Alienation of the Holy Spirit (4:5)

B. The Cause (4:6)



Audience

- **<u>Jewish (1:1)</u>**
- Persecution (Acts 8:1-4; 11:19)
- In Babylon-Mesopotamia or North-Central Turkey?
- Believers (Jas 1:2-4)



James 1:1

"James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the **twelve tribes** who are dispersed abroad: Greetings."



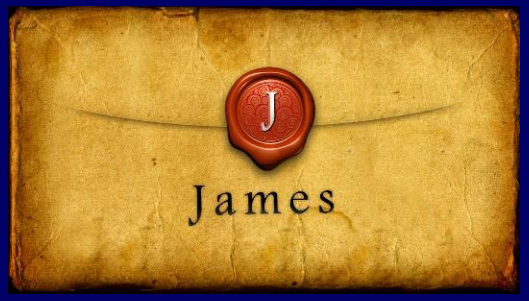
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1. Enmity against God (4:4)

2. **<u>Alienation of the Holy Spirit (4:5)</u>**

B. The Cause (4:6)



1 Samuel 16:13-14

13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord rushed **upon** David from that day forward. And Samuel set out and went to Ramah. 14 Now the Spirit of the Lord **left** Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord terrified him."



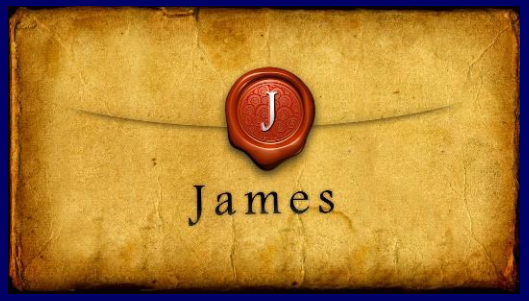
John 14:16-17

16 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, so that He may be with you **forever**; 17 the Helper is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him; but you know Him because He remains with you and will be **in** you."



Audience

- Jewish (1:1)
- Persecution (Acts 8:1-4; 11:19)
- In Babylon-Mesopotamia or North-Central Turkey?
- **<u>Believers (Jas 1:2-4)</u>**



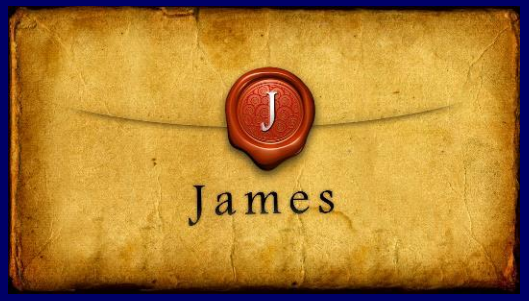
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Original State and First Sin (cont'd)

- Isaiah 14:12-15 – 5 "I will" statements:



  - **I will…**
    - Ascend to heaven (13)
    - Raise my throne above the stars of God (13)
    - Sit enthroned on the Mt. of the Assembly (13)
    - Ascend above the tops of the clouds (14)
    - Make myself like the Most High (14)

Original State and First Sin (cont'd)

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Hall of the Humbled

(Prov. 16:18; 1 Peter 5:5)

- Satan (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- Uzziah (2 Chron 26:16)
- Herod (Acts 12:20-23)
- Paul (2 Cor 12:1-10)



Scripture and Pride

- Prov 16:18
- Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17
- 1 Tim 3:6
- Acts 12:21-23
- 2 Cor 12:7
- 1 Pet 5:5

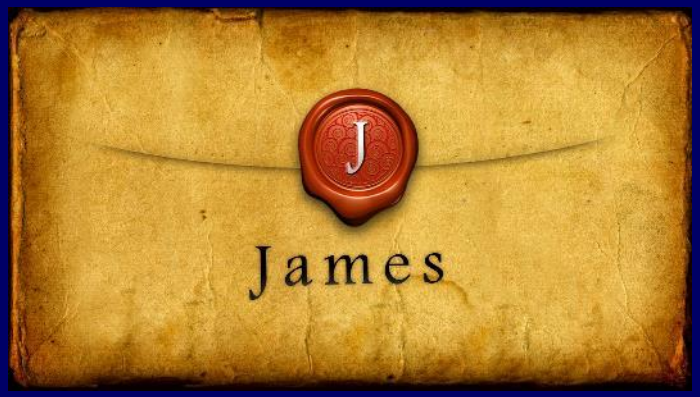


Spiritual Life
(4:1-12)

I. Avoid wrangling (4:1-3)

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III. **Essence of spiritual wisdom (4:7-12)**



III. Essence of Spiritual Wisdom
(4:7-12)

A. Submission to God (4:7a)

B. Resist Satan (4:7b)

C. Draw near to God (4:8a)

D. Repent (4:8b-9)

E. Humility (4:10)

F. Forego judgment (11-12)



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Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10
Nature	Single	Dual	Single


Mediterranean Sea
CANAAN
Gaza
Beersheba
Arad
Dead Sea
Way to the Land of the Philistines
Migdol
Rameses
EGYPT
Tahpanhes
WILDERNESS OF ZIN
Pithom?
GOSHEN
Succoth?
WILDERNESS OF SHUR
Kadesh-barnea
Punon
WILDERNESS OF PARAN
On
Memphis
Marah?
Timna
Elath
SINAI
Jotbathah?
Ezion-geber?
Nile River
Elim?
Red Sea
MIDIAN
Dophkah?
WILDERNESS OF SIN
Hazeroth?
Rephidim?
Mount Sinai? (Jebel Musa)
0
50
100 mi
0
50
100
150 km

A BRIEF CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST

chronology |krəˈnɒlədʒi| *noun*
the arrangement of events or dates in the order of their occurrence

Lordship Sanctification

- Rom. 6:12-13
- Rom. 12:1-2
- Eph. 6:10-20
- 1 Pet. 3:15



Lordship Sanctification



JUSTIFICATION – SALVATION	DISCIPLESHIP
FREE GIFT	COSTLY
RECEIVED THROUGH FAITH	ENTERED INTO THROUGH COMMITMENT AND OBEDIENCE THROUGH THE SPIRIT'S ENABLEMENT
NOT BY WORKS	INVOLVES OUR COOPERATION
INSTANT	LIFE-LONG PROCESS
JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION
JESUS PAID THE PRICE	BELIEVER PAYS THE PRICE
TRUSTING JESUS AS SAVIOR	FOLLOWING JESUS AS LORD
BELIEVE THE GOSPEL	OBEY THE COMMANDS
ONE CONDITION	MULTIPLE CONDITIONS
EXPERIENCED BY ALL CHRISTIANS	EXPERIENCED BY SOME CHRISTIANS
RESULTS IN ETERNAL LIFE	RESULTS IN REWARDS & AUTHORITY

Adapted from http://www.gracelife.org/resources/gracenotes.asp?id=23

III. Essence of Spiritual Wisdom
(4:7-12)

A. Submission to God (4:7a)

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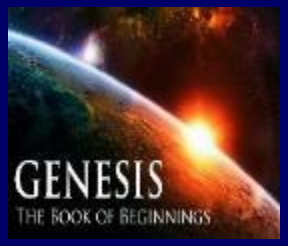
E. Humility (4:10)

F. Forego judgment (11-12)





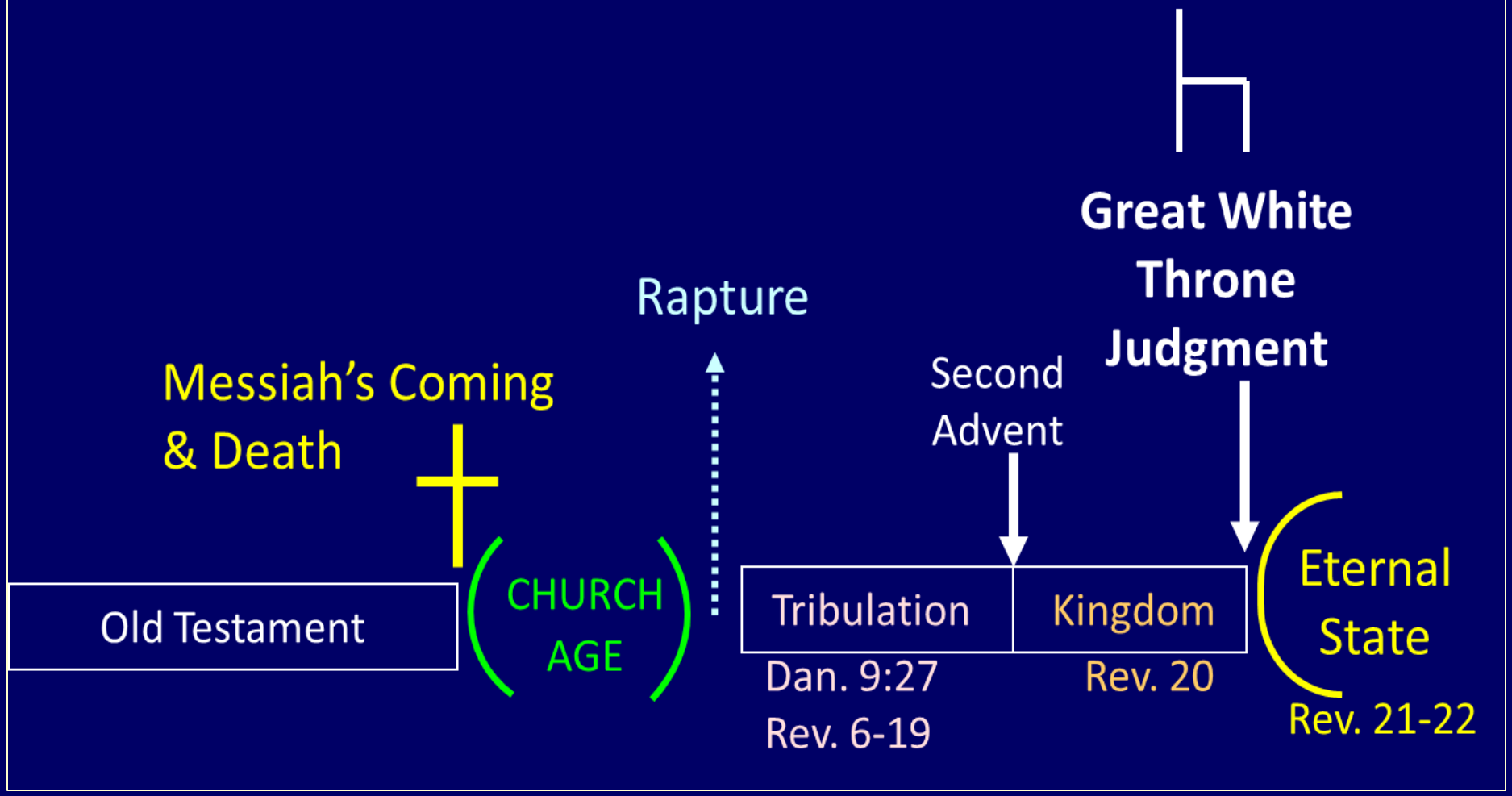
Satan's Progressive Defeat



1. Initial eviction from heaven (Isa 14:12-15; Ezek 28:12-17)
2. Eden (Gen 3:15)
3. Pre-diluvian world (1 Pet 3:19-20)
4. Cross (John 12:31; 16:11; Col 2:15; Heb 2:14; 1 John 3:8)
5. Mid point of the Tribulation (Rev 12:9)
6. **Beginning of millennium (Rev 20:2-3)**
7. End of millennium (Rev 20:10)



Prophecy Panorama

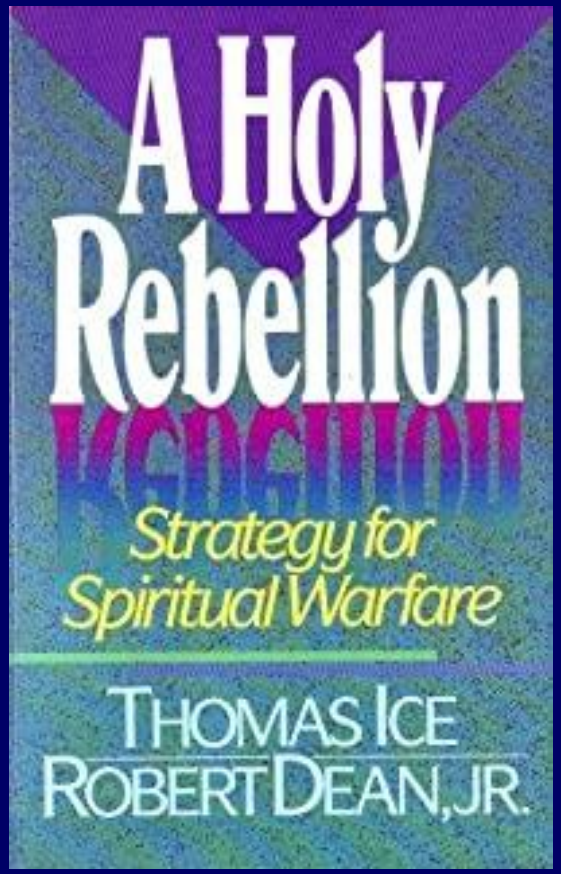


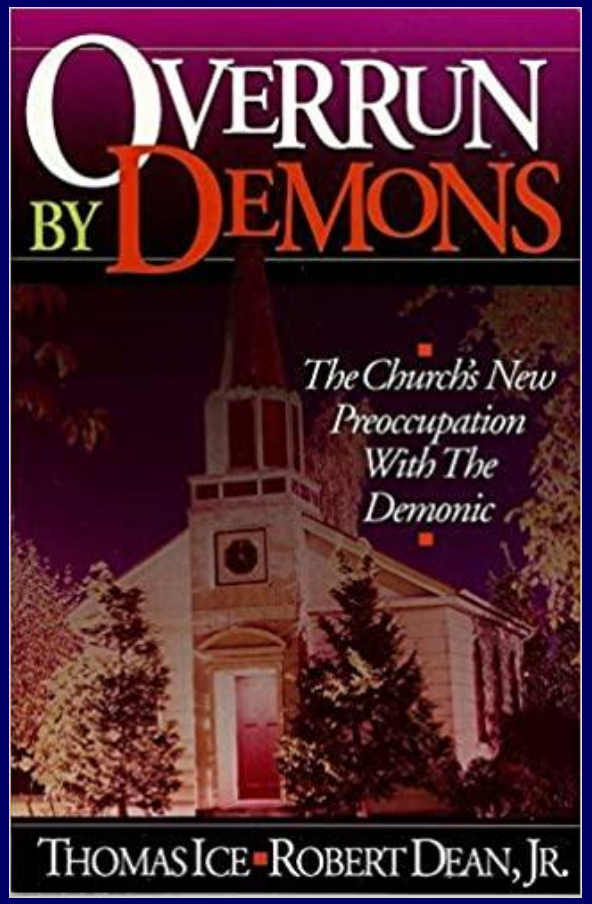
Revelation 20:1-3

“1 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven,
holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his
hand. 2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of
old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a
thousand years; 3 and he threw him into the abyss, and
shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not
deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years
were completed; after these things he must be released
for a short time.”




WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT
SPIRITUAL WARFARE
ROBERT DEAN JR.
and THOMAS ICE


A Holy Rebellion
Strategy for Spiritual Warfare
THOMAS ICE
ROBERT DEAN, JR.


OVERRUN BY DEMONS
The Church's New Preoccupation With The Demonic
THOMAS ICE • ROBERT DEAN, JR.

III. Essence of Spiritual Wisdom
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Nature	Single	Dual	Single



John F. MacArthur

“One of the most comprehensive invitations to salvation in all the Epistles comes in James 4:7 – 10. While James directs most of his epistle to genuine believers, it is also evident that he is concerned about those who are not genuine. He wants no one to be deceived regarding true salvation, so he calls for a real, living, saving faith that is distinct from the dead faith of chapter 2. He states his objective in 5:20. It is to see ‘the sinner converted from the error of his way and his soul saved from death.’”

John F. MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus: What Does Jesus Mean When He Says, "Follow Me"?* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988), 218-19.



John F. MacArthur

“The invitation in 4:7 – 10 is directed at those who are not saved — guilty, wicked hearers of the Word who are not doers (cf. 1:21 – 22); who are still captive to dead faith (cf. 2:14 – 20); who are bitter, selfish, arrogant liars whose ‘wisdom is not what comes from above but is earthy, natural, demonic” (3:15); who are loving the world and thus are the enemies of God (4:4); whose inner spirit is still dominated by lusts (cf. 4:5); and who are proud and self-sufficient (cf. 4:6). They are in desperate need of God’s grace.”

John F. MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus: What Does Jesus Mean When He Says, "Follow Me"?* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988), 218-19.



John F. MacArthur

"But since God only 'gives grace to the humble' (v. 6), James calls these 'sinners' (a term used in Scripture only of the unregenerate) to turn from their pride and humble themselves. Ten imperatives delineate the commands in James's call to sinners: submit yourself to God (salvation); resist the devil (transferring allegiance); draw near to God (intimacy of relationship); cleanse your hands (repentance); purify your hearts (confession); be miserable, mourn, weep, and let your laughter and joy be turned to gloom (sorrow)."

John F. MacArthur, *The Gospel According to Jesus: What Does Jesus Mean When He Says, "Follow Me"?* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1988), 218-19.



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"The final imperative summarizes the mentality of those who are converted: 'Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord.' All this is a work of God, who gives His more abundant grace (4:6)."

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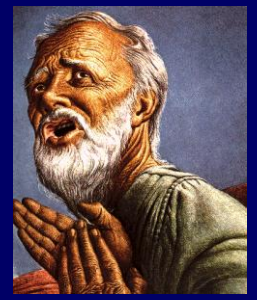
Belief – God's One Condition for Justification

Gen 15:6

Then he **believed** in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

John 3:16

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever **believes** in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



Acts 16:30-31

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "**Believe** in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved..."

III. Essence of Spiritual Wisdom
(4:7-12)

A. Submission to God (4:7a)

B. Resist Satan (4:7b)

C. Draw near to God (4:8a)

D. Repent (4:8b-9)

E. <u>Humility (4:10)</u>

F. Forego judgment (11-12)



Hall of the Humbled

(Prov. 16:18; 1 Peter 5:5)

- Satan (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-17; 1 Tim. 3:6)
- Uzziah (2 Chron 26:16)
- Herod (Acts 12:20-23)
- Paul (2 Cor 12:1-10)



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1 Corinthians 4:5

“Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of *men’s* hearts; and then each man’s praise will come to him from God.”



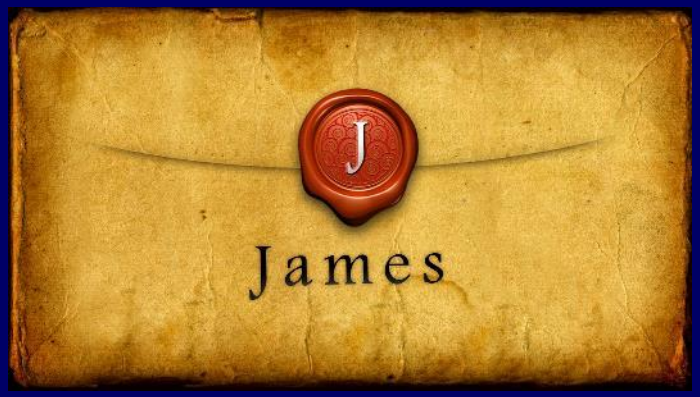
CONCLUSION

Spiritual Life
(4:1-12)

I. Avoid wrangling (4:1-3)

II. Avoid worldliness (4:4-6)

III. Essence of spiritual wisdom (4:7-12)



Structure

- **Wisdom (3:13–5:20)**
  - Wisdom defined (3:13-18)
  - Spirituality (4:1-12)
  - **Commerce (4:13-17)**
  - Use of wealth (5:1-6)
  - Waiting for the Lord's return (5:7-12)
  - Prayer (5:13-18)
  - Restoration of the erring brother (5:19-20)

