

Faith Works

Why James?

John 7:5 (NIV) “For even his own brothers did not believe in him.”

1 Corinthians 15:6-7a (NIV) “He appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James ...”

Three Reasons we desperately need the message of James right now:

1. James reminds us that God will give us wisdom.

James 1:5 (NIV) “If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”

James 1:6 (NIV) “But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt ...”

James 4:14 (NIV) “Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow.”

Isaiah 46:10a (NLT) “Only I can tell you the future before it even happens.”

2. James reminds us to trust God no matter what.

James 1:9-10 (NIV) “Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. ¹⁰But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.”

James 1:11 (NIV) “For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.”

James 1:12 (NIV) “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

2 Corinthians 4:17 (NIV) “For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.”

3. James reminds us that true faith results in obedience.

James 2:26 (NIV) “As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.”

James 2:14 (NIV) “What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?”

James 2:18b-19 (NIV) “I will show you my faith by my deeds. ¹⁹You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.”

John 14:15 (NLT) “If you love me, obey my commandments.”

James 3:17-18 (NIV) “But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.”