

James

I. The Message

They called him, “old camels knees,” because of the callouses on his knees from spending so much time in prayer. Perhaps it was his prayer life that gave him the wisdom to present the power of faith in everyday life in his letter to the twelve tribes scattered abroad. Some have called James, “the Proverbs of the New Testament,” where the author makes it clear that faith, works! Because, ‘faith without works is dead.’ It is a manual on Biblical counseling: How to respond to trials; How to handle the tongue; How to understand self centeredness; How to unsnarl inward attitudes toward rich and poor; How to handle anger; How to discern godly wisdom from worldly wisdom...

II. Audience

The twelve tribes scattered abroad.

III. Time of writing

One of the oldest books of the 27 NT books, probably written before 49ad and the Jerusalem council. James presents a reflection of the common problems and issues before the early church.

IV. Authorship

He is James the brother of Jesus and we know him as “James the Just.” He was known for prayer and was called, ‘camels knees’ – calluses on the knees from kneeling.

V. Outline

Chapter 1

- 1:1-4 Joy in trials
- 1:5-8 How to get wisdom when you lacks wisdom
- 1:9-11 The truth about riches and rich people
- 1:12-18 The truth about temptation
- 1:19-20 The quick to hear and the slow to speak
- 1:21-27 Doers of the Word

Chapter 2

- 2:1-13 Favoritism in the church
- 2:14-26 Faith without works is dead

Chapter 3

- 3:1-12 Taming the tongue
- 3:13-18 Detecting wisdom from above

Chapter 4

- 4:1-10 The Sources of Fights
- 4:11-17 Godless conversation

Chapter 5

- 5:1-12 The bankruptcy of ill gotten riches
- 5:13-18 Prayer for all seasons
- 5:19-20 Turning sinners back