



WISDOM

From the book
of James



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Overview of the Book of James

- Written approx. 50 AD
- James - brother of Jesus
- Leader of the early Jerusalem church
- James martyred in 62AD



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Overview of the Book of James

3 key themes in James:

- Faith and Deeds (Action)
- Trials
- Wisdom



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James 1:19

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.



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James 1:26

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.



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Proverbs 9:10

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.



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James 1:5

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.



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Quote: **Charles Spurgeon**

Wisdom is a gift. The best wisdom is not that which we acquire by study, but that which is the distinct gift of God in answer to prayer.



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James: How do we gain wisdom?

1. Ask
2. Not doubt



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James 1:6-8

But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.



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James 3:13

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.



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Proverbs 11:2

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.



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James 3:14-15

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.



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4 things to be wary of:

1. Harboring bitter envy
2. Selfish ambition
3. boasting about it
4. or denying the truth...



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James 3:16

For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.



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James 3:17

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.



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Heavenly wisdom:

- Pure - something that is without blemish
- Peace-loving - someone who is who always wants to live in peace with others



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Heavenly wisdom:

- Considerate - putting others and their needs before ourselves
- Full of Mercy - Someone who extends mercy to others, rather than judgement



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Heavenly wisdom:

- Good fruit - producing results for God's kingdom - not ourselves
- Impartial - someone who doesn't show favouritism
- Sincere - someone who is not hypocritical, their words and actions line up



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James 3:18

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.



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Summary:

- If we lack wisdom, we should ask God
- Don't doubt
- Humility is a key to gaining wisdom
- Seek Heavenly wisdom