

Transforming Faith

The Epistle of James
A Find-Out-for-Yourself Bible Study
for Women

With Elizabeth Rice Handford

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Faith That Transforms

1 *The Big Idea in the Epistle of James*

1. Who is the human writer of the book of James? (James 1:1)
_____ There are two men named James in the New Testament, perhaps four. One was the brother of John, a son of Zebedee, and an apostle (Matt. 4:21). What happened to him? (Acts 12:1,2) _____ Another James was the brother of Jesus, and he is probably the author of this book. How did he feel about Jesus at first? (John 7:5) _____ What changed his attitude? (1 Cor. 15:7; Acts 1:14). _____ What ministry did God give him then? (Gal. 1:19; 2:9; Acts 12:17; 15:13ff)

_____ Though he was the half-brother of Jesus (they had the same mother, Mary, but his father was Joseph; Jesus' Father was God Himself) by what title does James designate himself? (James 1:1) _____ The word "servant" is "indentured servant; bond slave." What clue should this give us about how we should feel about serving God?

2. The human author of this epistle is James. Who is the actual author of all Scripture? (2 Tim. 3:16) _____ What confidence can we have in the absolute dependability of these God-breathed Scriptures? (Prov. 30:5; John 10:35; Matt. 4:4) _____

What does the Word of God give us? (1 Peter 1:23,25)

3. James 2:22,23 is a good summation of the book of James,

that _____

*Another way to say it: “Do your actions **demonstrate** what you **say** about your faith? Some scholars have said James wrote this book to offset Paul’s teaching in the book of Romans that “the just shall live by faith.” What did we learn, under part 2 of this study sheet, that proves this is not true?*

We certainly know that no one can make himself good enough for Heaven by his works. Salvation is all by God’s grace, and we can add absolutely nothing to it to “help” us get to Heaven. James’ theme is not that a man earns Heaven by his good works, but rather, if a man has been born again, it will affect how he acts.

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Transforming Faith: The Epistle of James,
a Find-Out-For-Yourself Bible Study
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