

JAMES OUTLINE

By Ashby L. Camp

- I. Greeting - 1:1
- II. Encouragement and instruction for trials - 1:2 - 2:13
 - A. Encouragement to endure oppression by rich (1:2-12)
 - 1. maturing effect of trials (1:2-4)
 - 2. availability of needed wisdom (1:5-8)
 - 3. contrasting positions and fates (1:9-12)
 - B. Warning against slandering God during trials (1:13-18)
 - 1. do not ascribe evil intent to God (1:13-15)
 - 2. God seeks only our good (1:16-18)
 - C. Call to be doers of the word during trials (1:19 - 2:13)
 - 1. with regard to hostility toward oppressors (1:19-27)
 - a. anger toward oppressors (1:19-25)
 - b. sinful speech toward oppressors (1:26-27)
 - 2. with regard to preference toward rich (2:1-13)
 - a. problem identified (2:1-4)
 - b. foolishness of favoring the rich (2:5-7)
 - c. seriousness of the sin (2:8-13)
- III. Defense of call to works in light of error (2:14-26)
 - A. Error of "faith only" shown from everyday example (2:14-17)
 - B. Error of "faith only" shown from fate of demons (2:18-19)
 - C. Error of "faith only" shown from Scripture (2:20-26)
- IV. Caution about role of teacher in light of error (3:1-5a)
 - A. Stricter judgment and potential for error (3:1-2)
 - B. Great effect of teaching on church (3:3-5a)
- V. Call to harmony among believers (3:5b - 4:12)
 - A. Cursing (3:5b-12)
 - 1. destructive potential of tongue in general (3:5b-8)
 - 2. manifested among them in cursing (3:9-12)
 - B. Envy and rivalry (3:13-18)
 - C. Conflicts and quarrels (4:1-3)
 - D. Call to submit to God (4:4-10)
 - E. Command not to speak against one another (4:11-12)
- VI. Criticism of the wealthy (4:13 - 5:6)
 - A. Rebuke of believers neglecting poor believers (4:13-17)
 - B. Fate of unbelievers oppressing poor believers (5:1-6)
- VII. Encouragement to stand firm during oppression by rich (5:7-11)
- VIII. Concluding remarks (5:12-20)
 - A. Instruction not to swear (5:12)
 - B. Instruction regarding suffering, cheer, and illness (5:13-8)
 - C. Encouragement to correct the erring (5:19-20)