

# A Test Of Faith

## (James 1:1-18)

### An Introduction To James

The book of James was written by James, the brother of Jesus. During Jesus' life on earth James was not a believer, but was converted when Jesus appeared to him after his resurrection (1 Cor 15:7). From the book of Acts we learn that James is a leader of the church at Jerusalem.

The book is a letter that was written 'to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations' – meaning that it was written to other Jewish people who were living outside the area of Palestine. In the letter James encourages those who are suffering because of their faith, but at the same time he urges his readers to not only be listeners of the word, but also to be doers of what they hear.

1. How would you describe the typical way in which people respond to tough situations that they find themselves in?

### Read James 1:1-18

2. What does James say that our mental attitude to trials should be? (verses 2-8)
3. Why should this be our attitude? (also verse 12)
4. Draw the two men of verses 5-8 and their situations.

A) verse 5	B) verses 6-8
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5. What kind of wisdom do you think verse 5 is talking about? How do we obtain it?

6. Why do you think Mr B 'should not think he will receive anything from the Lord'? (verse 7)
  
7. From verses 13-18 where does sin / temptation come from?
  
8. How does this passage contrast 'trials' and 'temptations'?
  
9. How then can we avoid succumbing to it, but instead overcome it?

**Summary**

Be joyful in trials because it leads to \_\_\_\_\_ which leads to a solid faith. We should approach God \_\_\_\_\_ when we pray, not \_\_\_\_\_.

Temptation leads to \_\_\_\_\_, which gives birth to \_\_\_\_\_, which when full-grown leads to \_\_\_\_\_.