

JAMES: 18 TOPICS IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

Possibly the Cliff's Notes from James' Jerusalem Church sermons

James 1.1 trouble has purpose
James 1.5 wisdom is available
James 1. 9 poor & rich are equal
James 1.12 temptation
James 1.19 doers of the word
James 1.26 bridle your tongue
James 2.1 don't show favoritism
James 2.10 keep the whole Law
James 2.14 faith must work
James 3.1 the tongue is a fire
James 3.13 wisdom from above
James 4.1 grace to the humble
James 4.11 watch your mouth
James 4.13 if the Lord wills
James 5.1 the danger of being rich
James 5.7 patience is a virtue
James 5.13 confession & healing
James 5.16b fervent prayer

- The letter is addressed to the Diaspora [*dispersed*] members of pastor James' congregation formerly living in Jerusalem.
- It seems to be a collection of mini-messages which would remind James' readers about full sermons James had preached when they were all back in Jerusalem.
- I think those in the Diaspora must have smiled and could picture James in his pulpit as they read his epistle.
- The dispersion of the Jerusalem believers occurred in the 1st century.
AD 66-70, Jewish-Roman War, ending in AD 70 with Titus destroying the Temple.
James was became pastor sometime soon after Pentecost. See Acts 12.17 15.13-21 21.18
- There seems to be no order of importance.
- One paragraph doesn't seem to proceed from the former one.
- Each paragraph can stand on it's own.
- No themes are developed fully.
Most paragraphs are 5-10 verses long.
- There is no new doctrine.