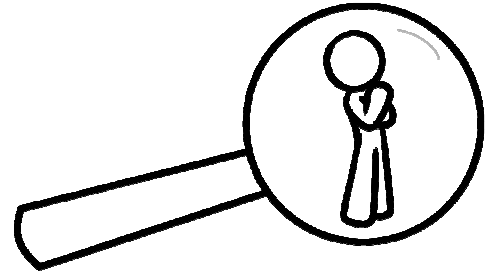


The Examined Life



2/15/15

James

How to Trust God and Love One Another in Tough Times

1. Rejoice James 1:2-4

² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

⁴ And let endurance have *its* perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

2. Ask for wisdom James 1:5-8

⁵ But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

3. Have an eternal perspective James 1:9-12

⁹ But let the brother of humble circumstances glory in his high position;

...¹² Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him.

4. Beware of the danger of lust James 1:13-15

¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

5. Do the Word James 1:16-27

²¹ Therefore putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

6. Stop the favoritism James 2:1-11

¹ My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of* personal favoritism.

² For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,"

⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?

7. Be merciful James 2:12-26

¹² So speak and so act, as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty.

¹³ For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What use is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but he has no works? Can that faith save him?

- ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food,
¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that?
¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.

8. Bridle the tongue James 3:1-12

² For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well.

³ Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they may obey us, we direct their entire body as well.

⁴ Behold, the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder, wherever the inclination of the pilot desires.

9. Be humble James 3:13-18

¹³ Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.

10. Stop the adultery James 4:1-10

¹ What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

² You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. And you are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

⁴ You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

11. Stop being judgmental James 4:11-12

¹¹ Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother, or judges his brother, speaks against the law, and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge *of it*.

¹² There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?

12. Stop procrastinating James 4:13-17

¹⁴ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

¹⁵ Instead, *you ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and also do this or that."

¹⁶ But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.

¹⁷ Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do, and does not do it, to him it is sin.

13. Be generous James 5:1-6

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you.

² Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten.

³ Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure!

14. Be patient James 5:7-11

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains.

⁸ You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

⁹ Do not complain, brethren, against one another, that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door.

15. Be honest James 5:12

¹² But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but let your yes be yes, and your no, no; so that you may not fall under judgment.

16. Pray James 5:13-18

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises.

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;

17. Interfere James 5:19-20

¹⁹ My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth, and one turns him back,

²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death, and will cover a multitude of sins.

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Acts

How to Be the Body of Christ

1. Be witnesses everywhere to the death and resurrection of Jesus Acts 1:1-11

⁸ but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

2. Be devoted to prayer and the Word Acts 1:12-26

¹⁴ These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer

¹⁵ And at this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together), and said,

¹⁶ "Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus

3. Do life together Acts 2:37-47

⁴² And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³ And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.

⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common;

⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

⁴⁶ And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

⁴⁷ praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

4. Trust God Acts 4:23-31

²³ And when they had been released, they went to their own *companions*, and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

²⁴ And when they heard *this*, they lifted their voices to God with one accord and said, "O Lord, it is Thou who didst make the heaven and the earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

²⁵ who by the Holy Spirit, *through* the mouth of our father David Thy servant, didst say, 'Why did the Gentiles rage, And the peoples devise futile things?

²⁶ 'The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord, and against His Christ.'

²⁷ "For truly in this city there were gathered together against Thy holy servant Jesus, whom Thou didst anoint, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,

²⁸ to do whatever Thy hand and Thy purpose predestined to occur.

²⁹ "And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Thy bond-servants may speak Thy word with all confidence...

5. Be genuine Acts 5:1-11

³ But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back *some* of the price of the land?

⁴ "While it remained *unsold*, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God."

⁵ And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came upon all who heard of it.

6. Care for widows Acts 6:1-6

¹ Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic *Jews* against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of *food*.

² And the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.

³ "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.

⁴ "But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

7. Don't try to buy God's blessings Acts 8:18-24

²⁰ But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!

²¹ "You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God.

²² "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

²³ "For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity."

8. Don't be prejudice Acts 10:1-11:18

^{10:28} And he said to them, "You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean

^{11:15} "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, just as *He did* upon us at the beginning.

¹⁶ "And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'

¹⁷ "If God therefore gave to them the same gift as *He gave* to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"

9. Care for the poor Acts 11:27-30

²⁷ Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.

²⁸ And one of them named Agabus stood up and *began* to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the *reign* of Claudius.

²⁹ And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a *contribution* for the relief of the brethren living in Judea.

10. Honor God Acts 12:1-24

¹ Now about that time Herod the king laid hands on some who belonged to the church, in order to mistreat them.

² And he had James the brother of John put to death with a sword.

³ And when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. Now it was during the days of Unleavened Bread.

⁴ And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out before the people.

⁵ So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God.

⁶ And on the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains; and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison

²¹ And on an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and *began* delivering an address to them.

²² And the people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!"

²³ And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.

²⁴ But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied.