

James 1:5-8 - Wisdom and Trials

Written by Tim Black
Wednesday, 08 October 2008 02:00

James: A Handbook on Holiness

Wisdom and Trials

James 1:5-8

General outline of chapter 1:

1.

The Way to Holiness: The Divine Perspective 1:2-27

1.

The Trial-Temptation Complex 1:2-18

1.

The Confrontation with Trials 1:2-8

1.

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Joy and Trials 1:2-4

2.

Wisdom and Trials 1:5-8

3.

The Range of Trials 1:9-11

1.

The Trial of Poverty 1:9

2.

The Trial of Riches 1:10-11

3.

The Outcome of Trials 1:12-18

1.

Confidence in Trials 1:12

2.

Defeat in Trials 1:13-15

3.

Victory in Trials 1:16-18

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James 1:5-8

Ask for wisdom

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

Ask in faith, not doubting

6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

7 For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

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Questions:

1.

V. 5: When you lack wisdom in a trial: What words do you say? What kinds of harm may result? Why do you lack wisdom? How can you get wisdom?

1.

V. 5: Is James saying God will give you *anything* you ask for? _____ YES _____ NO

2.

V. 5: What does it mean to give "generously?" To give "without reproach?"

1.

Vv. 6-8: What does it mean to "ask in faith, with no doubting?" What does each result & evidence of doubting mean, and what counterpart does it find in faith?

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Faith

Doubting

Results:

driven & tossed by wind: _____
will not receive anything: _____

Evidences:

Double-minded: _____
unstable in ways: _____

2.

What should you do when you next face a trial?

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