



James

β 59th book of the Bible (out of 66)

New

β 0.35% of the verses in the Bible

Testament

β Written by James

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Sometimes you meet people who have lots to say, but don't really seem to believe what they say because their actions suggest something else. James' letter was written to groups of Jewish converts outside of Israel. It clearly shows the characteristics of two types of people - those that follow God and those that don't. James says that it is impossible to say that you are following God and then not to act as though you are. We can't just talk about our Christian faith to others - we must live it out for all to see. Christians must also be a great example to others with regard to living in harmony with fellow believers. This book is written with an emphasis on behaviour rather than on doctrine. It is easy to understand, but much more difficult to put into action.

Facts: Jesus had several half brothers and sisters - James was one of them (Matt 13:55). He became a Follower of Jesus after His resurrection. He is mentioned quite a few times in Acts and became the leader of the Jerusalem Church. He was martyred it is thought in 62AD.

Church tradition says that James had a nickname: 'Old Camel Knees.' He is said to have had thick calluses on his knees, built up from many years of determined prayer whilst kneeling. The great wisdom that he shows in his letter was gained by spending large amounts of time with God interceding for his family, friends and Church members. That challenges me and perhaps you. What does our posture in prayer say about us?

Aim to read the whole book over the next two weeks.