

“Let Me Introduce You to James”

James*

Though somewhat ignored by modern readers, James is an indispensable element of God’s Word. This letter’s profound substance renders invalid Martin Luther’s initial evaluation of the work as a “right strawy epistle.” The Book of James is the voice of a great Christian leader whose grasp of the spiritual life and of human nature is equal to any in the Bible. The contemporary church ignores James’s immensely practical admonitions at its own peril.

Here is a “right stirring epistle” designed to exhort and encourage, to challenge and convict, to rebuke and revive, to describe practical holiness and drive believers toward the goal of a faith that works. James is severely ethical and refreshingly practical. Let us answer five introductory questions;

Who wrote James?

When was James written?

Who were the original recipients of this letter?

Does the letter of James belong in our Bibles?

What is the purpose of James?

* These notes are prayerfully provided to aid, not replace, your personal study of God’s Word.

Dating of New Testament Books

DATES	30	47	49	52	56	58	61
EVENTS	Life of Christ	Paul's First Journey	Paul's Second Journey	Paul's Third Journey	Paul's Caesarean Imprisonment	Paul's First Roman Imprisonment	Paul's First Roman Imprisonment
ACTS	1-12	13-14	15-18	18-21	22-26	28	
BOOKS	James	Galatians	I Thessalonians II Thessalonians	I Corinthians II Corinthians Romans	Ephesians Philippians Colossians Philemon Acts		
DATES	61	64	67	70	85	95	
EVENTS	Paul's Release	Paul's Second Roman Imprisonment					
ACTS							
BOOKS	I Timothy Titus I Peter	II Peter	II Timothy	Hebrews Mark? Jude	John I John II John III John Revelation		

Robert G. Gromacki, *New Testament Survey* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 1974).