



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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## Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, faith without obedient actions to back it up is destitute of power, inoperative, and dead, Lord help me to remember and fill me with wisdom, for you said we are to be hearers of the Word and doers. We are not saved by works, but we are to be doers of the Word in whatever it is Your will for us to do it is the bearing of fruit to Your honor and glory. The bearing of fruit is a witness unto You that You are in us and enabling us, it is to Your glory and honor, not man's. For if God be for me, whom can be against me, if You are in the task my Lord, than nothing can stop it. Help me to wait for Your timing, as Your ways are higher than man's. I ask it in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

## Worship Music

[Move-Mercy Me](#)

[Beautiful-Mercy Me](#)

[Light Up The Sky-The Afters](#)

[Love Never Fails-  
Brandon Heath](#)

## Scripture

James I ( 2005)

### James I:1-27 (AMP)

<sup>1</sup> JAMES, A servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes scattered abroad [among the Gentiles in the dispersion]: Greetings (rejoice)!

<sup>2</sup> Consider it wholly joyful, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in *or* encounter trials of any sort *or* fall into various temptations.

<sup>3</sup> Be assured *and* understand that the trial *and* proving of your faith bring out endurance *and* steadfastness *and* patience.

<sup>4</sup> But let endurance *and* steadfastness *and* patience have full play *and* do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing.

<sup>5</sup> If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally *and* ungrudgingly, without reproaching *or* faultfinding, and it will be given him.

<sup>6</sup> Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither *and* thither and tossed by the wind.

<sup>7</sup> For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord,

<sup>8</sup> [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable *and* unreliable *and* uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].

<sup>9</sup> Let the brother in humble circumstances glory in his elevation [as a Christian, called to the true riches and to be an heir of God],

<sup>10</sup> And the rich [person ought to glory] in being humbled [by being shown his human frailty], because like the flower of the grass he will pass away.

<sup>11</sup> For the sun comes up with a scorching heat and parches the grass; its flower falls off and its beauty fades away. Even so will the rich man wither *and* die in the midst of his pursuits.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed (happy, to be envied) is the man who is patient under trial *and* stands up under temptation, for when he has stood the test *and* been approved, he will receive [the victor's] crown of life which God has promised to those who love Him.

<sup>13</sup> Let no one say when he is tempted, I am tempted from God; for God is incapable of being tempted by [what is] evil and He Himself tempts no one.

<sup>14</sup> But every person is tempted when he is drawn away, enticed *and* baited by his own evil desire (lust, passions).

<sup>15</sup> Then the evil desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin, and sin, when it is fully matured, brings forth death.

<sup>16</sup> Do not be misled, my beloved brethren.

<sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect (free, large, full) gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of all [that gives] light, in [the shining of] Whom there can be no variation [rising or setting] or shadow cast by His turning [as in an eclipse].

<sup>18</sup> And it was of His own [free] will that He gave us birth [as sons] by [His] Word of Truth, so that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures [a sample of what He created to be consecrated to Himself].

<sup>19</sup> Understand [this], my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear [a ready listener], slow

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## Bible Studies

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to speak, slow to take offense *and* to get angry. <sup>20</sup> For man's anger does not promote the righteousness God [wishes and requires]. <sup>21</sup> So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit receive *and* welcome the Word which implanted *and* rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls. <sup>22</sup> But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves [into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth]. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone only listens to the Word without obeying it *and* being a doer of it, he is like a man who looks carefully at his [own] natural face in a mirror; <sup>24</sup> For he thoughtfully observes himself, and then goes off and promptly forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it *and* perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience). <sup>26</sup> If anyone thinks himself to be religious (piously observant of the external duties of his faith) and does not bridle his tongue but deludes his own heart, this person's religious service is worthless (futile, barren). <sup>27</sup> External religious worship [religion as it is expressed in outward acts] that is pure and unblemished in the sight of God the Father is this: to visit *and* help *and* care for the orphans and widows in their affliction *and* need, and to keep oneself unspotted *and* uncontaminated from the world.



#### James 1:1–8. Trials. Perseverance. Wisdom. Faith

Consider it pure joy whenever you face trials ( v. 2 ), whether they be persecution, sickness, or suffering of one kind or another. Perseverance proves our faith and helps build us into the kind of person that Christ came to make us. Peter says that trials strengthen faith ( 1 Peter 1:7 ).

Trials teach perseverance ( James 1:3–4 ). Perseverance in time of suffering is the ability to go on, waiting calmly and in joy for that glad day when God shall wipe away all tears ( Revelation 21:4 ).

Perseverance brings maturity and completeness ( James 1:4 ). We are just poor sinners saved by grace. But spiritual maturity is our ultimate goal. Some day we shall be perfect, as He is ( 1 John 3:2 ).

Wisdom ( James 1:5 ). Sound judgment about the practical things of daily life, in all its phases, so that we live, in all things, as Christians should.

Prayer ( v. 5 ) will help attain such wisdom. The letter begins and ends with an exhortation to prayer ( 5:13–18 ).

Faith ( 1:6–8 ). Unwavering faith that stands sure and undisturbed in all the storms of life is the condition of effective prayer. All things are possible to them who believe ( Mark 9:23 ).

#### James 1:9–18. Riches. Temptation. The New Birth

Riches ( vv. 9–11 ). A solemn reminder that not our status here but our status in eternity should be our main concern. Even the poor may rejoice in their glorious destiny. (See further on James 2:1–13 .)

Trials ( 1:12 ). This is the same word as in v. 2 . There it seems to mean "being proved by suffering." Here it means "enticement to sin." And sin, born in lust, gives birth to death.

Tempted ( vv. 13–15 ). This refers to temptations that test an individual's moral strength. God cannot be tempted because His very nature is holy and there is nothing in Him to which sin could appeal. Satan tempts us ( 1 Corinthians 7:5 ) in order to make us fall. God tests us ( Genesis 22:1 ; Exodus 20:20 ) in order to confirm our faith and to prove our commitment.

The Christian's newborn soul ( James 1:16–18 ). As desire brings forth sin, and sin gives birth to death, so God, through His Word and in the name of Christ, gives birth to the newborn souls in those who are destined to constitute His inheritance through the endless ages of eternity. Peter also speaks of the Word of God as being the imperishable seed that brings forth the newborn soul of a Christian ( 1 Peter 1:23 ).

#### James 1:19–27. The Tongue. The Word. Pure Religion

Watch your tongue ( vv. 19–21 ). Control your temper. Be a good listener. Abstain from filthy talk.

Be doers of the word ( vv. 21–25 ). In v. 18 the word is called the instrument of the soul's birth. In v. 21 it is the agent of the soul's salvation. In v. 23 it is represented as a mirror, showing us ourselves in our true light. If we act on what we are taught in the Word—if we do what it says, we will be blessed!

Pure religion ( vv. 26–27 ). A magnificent passage. The tongue is involved again. An uncontrolled tongue in a religious person indicates that his or her religion is useless. A life of charity and kindness, free from too much attachment to earthly things, is religion's glory. (Compare what Jesus said on the simplicity and importance of kindness; Matthew 25:31–46 .)

(Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; history & commentaries; page 857-858)

V1 The author of this epistle is known as James the great, not James the brother of John and the son of Zebedee. This is the James who had a major role in the leadership of the early Church. He presided over the council called to settle the dispute about the Gentile converts (Acts 15:13-29). He is considered by scholars to be the son of Joseph and Mary, a half-brother of Jesus Christ (Mark 6:3). "Servant" means bond slave. V2 "Divers temptations" means various testings. V3 Patience is developed through trials while we wait in faith for God to act. V5 God doesn't chide us when we ask for wisdom, instead, He gives it to us freely (Proverbs 4:5-6). V12 Revelation 2:10. Verse 17 God is immutable: He doesn't change. V18 John 1:12-13. V22 We need to obey God's Word when we hear it. V27 True religion is evidenced in actions.

(New Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; 2005; Chuck Smith; commentaries; page 167)

James 1:2, 3 teaches us that we should rejoice in difficult situations, knowing that through them God tests our faith to bring out patience. I find that trials do eventually produce patience, but first they bring all kinds of junk to the surface such as pride, anger, rebellion, self-pity, and complaining. We need to face and deal with these ungodly traits before patience can come forth.

The Bible talks about purification, sanctification, sacrifice, and suffering. These are not popular words; nevertheless, if we are to be Christ like in character, we must sometimes go through difficult circumstances to learn His ways. I struggled with this process for a long time, but I finally realized that God was not going to do things my way. He placed people and situations in my life that caused me to want to quit this whole process, and He did not want an argument from me. He only wanted to hear, "Yes, Lord. Your will be done."

There are two ways to handle problems—the natural way and the spiritual way. James 1:5, 6 tells how to solve your problems the spiritual way. It says if you have trouble, simply ask God what you should do. You may not receive an answer immediately, but you will find that divine wisdom (wisdom beyond your natural understanding) will begin to operate through you, helping you know what to do.

James 1:12-15 teaches us about dealing with temptation. When was the last time you were tempted? Are you struggling with temptation right now? It is important to remember that temptation—the desire to have or to do something that you know you should avoid—never comes from God. Temptation comes from ungodly desires within us, and such desires, left unchecked, lead to sinful actions. When you are tempted, recognize that God is not testing you; rather, He wants to give you strength to overcome the temptation you are facing. Ask Him to do so.

We see from James 1:21 that the Word has the power to save us from a life of sin, but only as it is received and welcomed in our hearts. When we pay wholehearted attention to God's Word, it becomes implanted and rooted in us. If you and I are to walk in the power of God, we need to heed the advice of verse 22 to become doers of the Word and not hearers only. Otherwise we deceive ourselves by reasoning that is contrary to the truth. It is the truth, and the truth alone, that sets us free and keeps us free. In order for it to work in our lives, and in order for us to receive God's promises from the Word, we must be responsible and obedient to the Word. We cannot try to excuse away our sins and weaknesses. Instead, we must become bondservants to God and not to our human nature or to other people or things. The bottom line is this: God is your Helper. He is your Healer. He has a personalized plan for your life. Make sure you know what it is; then begin to walk in obedience to the truth one step at a time. Obeying the Word requires consistency and diligence. It cannot be "hit and miss." You cannot just try it to see if it works, but you must have a dedication and commitment to obey the Word whatever the outcome. I encourage you today to keep your mind tuned in to God's Word more than anything else. Let His Word become planted deep into your heart and listen to what it tells you. Obey Him. Then you will be a doer of the Word, not just a hearer of it—and you will walk in the power of God.

It can be difficult to grasp the idea of the "law of liberty" because law and liberty seem to be opposites: A law says one thing, while liberty says another. I believe the law of liberty spoken of in James 1:25 refers to the freedom of self-control, because God puts a new heart in you that *wants* to obey His law of love.

With this new heart that Jesus gave you, you have the ability to be led of the Spirit, Who gives you the power and freedom to love others. Enjoy your day by allowing the Lord to love others through you.

(Amplified Bible; The Everyday Life Bible; 2005; Joyce Meyers; Scripture, notes, commentaries; pages 2060 -2063)  
( Word 9; Bible Software; KJV; Amp; Sermons of Historical pastors; Scripture; concordance; reference materials; 2010)

**Psa 119:105**  
**Thy word [is] a lamp unto**  
**my feet, and a light unto my path.**



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