

Bible Survey  
James and 1 Peter

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James--Introduction

- Author: James, ½-brother of Jesus and leader of church in Jerusalem
- Date: A.D. 45 - 49

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James--Historical/Theological Themes

- Trials/Temptation (1:2, 12, 13, 14)
- Endurance (1:3, 4, 12; 5:11)
- Mature (1:4, 17, 25; 3:2 )
- Faith (1:3, 6; 2:1, 5, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 5:15)
- Wisdom (1:5; 3:13, 15, 17)
- Deliverance in Salvation (1:21; 2:14; 4:12; 5:15-20)
- Sin (1:15; 2:9; 4:17; 5:15, 16, 20; 4:8)
- God (1:5, 13, 17; 2:19; 3:9; 4:15; 5:4, 11)

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### James--Literary Structure & Purpose

The maturing Christian is . . .

- Patient in Testing
- Practicing the Truth
- Powerful over his Tongue
- Peacemaker not a Trouble-maker
- Prayerful in Troubles

**PURPOSE:** *Believers who were accusing God of temptation were told to receive the Word with an attitude of being quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger so as to develop the endurance necessary to endure trials, deliver their souls and receive the crown of life.*

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### James--Interpretive Issues

James 2:24--

- *Contradiction* to theology of Paul? (Eph 2:8 - 9)
- Accompaniment to theology of Paul
  - Context of James 2:14-16 = evidence of salvation is a changed life
  - Paul: Philippians 2:12

James 5:13-15 (elders' prayer and healing)

- Supernatural power to elders?
- Promise of physical healing?
- Promise of emotional/spiritual restoration to the weak?
- Promise of guaranteed physical healing to a repentant believer who have been under the Lord's discipline.
  - Association with confession of sin; involvement of elders; illustration of Elijah; application of wandering brother

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### 1 Peter--Introduction

Author: Apostle Peter

Date: A.D. 60

Situation:

- Emperor Nero increasing persecution
- After fire of A.D. 64, government sponsored persecution begins for 250 years.

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### 1 Peter—Historical/Theological Themes

- God (39x)
- Suffering (1:11; 2:19, 20, 21, 23; 3:14, 17; 4:1, 13, 15, 19; 5:1, 9, 10)
- Hope (1:3, 13, 21; 3:5, 15)
- Life-style
  - Conduct (1:15, 17, 18; 2:12; 3:1, 2, 16)
  - Keep Doing Good (2:12, 14, 15, 18, 20; 3:6, 11, 13, 16, 17, 21; 4:10, 19)
  - Stop Doing Evil (2:1, 12, 14, 16; 3:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17; 4:15)
  - Submission (2:13, 18; 3:1, 5, 22; 5:5)
  - Obey/Disobey (1:2, 14, 22; 2:8; 3:1, 6, 20; 4:17)
  - Holiness (1:2, 12, 15, 16; 2:5, 9; 3:5, 15)
- Election (1:1; 2:4, 6, 9; 5:13) and Salvation (1:5, 9, 10; 2:2; 3:10, 21; 4:18)

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### 1 Peter—Literary Structure and Purpose

- I. Salvation of the Believer (1:1-2:12)
- II. Submission of the Believer (2:13-3:12)
- III. Suffering of the Believer (3:13-5:14)

**PURPOSE:** Persecuted Christians were called to live a holy life as they remembered their future hope.

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