

/Greetings / This is the lecture of the book of James, chapter 1.

/The writer of this book is the brother of Jesus, James/ It was written approximately A.D 62/ The place of writing this book is Jerusalem

/The theme of this book is :/ Faith realized by one's deeds.

/The main idea of chapter 1 is Trial./ First, all people/ must concern the trials gladly./ Verses 1-4/ Second, pray when you encounter the trials./ Verses 5-8/ Third,/ be the person who abides in the God's Word. Verses 9-11.

/Fourth,/Overcome the trials./ Verses 12-18/ Fifth,/ be the person who receives the God's Word./ Verses 19-21.

/Sixth,/ be the person who acts out the God's Word./ Verses 22-27

/When we look at the verse 1, /it is written that James, *the servant of God and the Lord Jesus Christ sends greetings to the scattered twelve tribes.*/ The "scattered twelve tribes" are/ the Jews who converted to Christianity./ They are the people who lived inside of Judea or in outside of the borders of Judea.

/People who were captivated/ were scattered due to persecution./ Although they were scattered, their love of the Lord was unchanged./ To give comfort to those people,/ God allowed the book of James to be written.

/In verse 2/It is said, *my brothers.*/ We Christians are the brothers in faith./ We brothers/ are to rejoice soundly when we encounter various trials.

/Then, what kind of trials are there?/The contempt from non-Christians,/ plunder,/ threats of burglary./ 2 Corinthians 11:23, 28/ Hebrews 10:34/ The trial in this passage/ is regarded as afflictions and sufferings rather than temptations./It is written that the path of following Jesus is/ full of diverse trials.

/There are various numbers of prescriptions for diseases./ Some sufferings help us to humble our pride and arrogance,/ and some sufferings help us to remove our greed./ The sufferings which we Christians go through are not from judgments.

/We must know that they are the trainings which God has given to us/ to oppress our sin./ It is written as, *when you face trials.*/ It means that trials occur abruptly. They are something unwanted.

/It is written, "consider it with pure joy."/ and not to judge emotionally but/ judge according to the supernatural standards./ We are able to judge correctly based on the Word of God.

/It is written *to consider it pure joy.* /Firstly,/ Rejoice through looking at the given honor./ We have been called to be a witness the truth of jesusJesus Christ./ Matthew 5:12-13

/Secondly, the benefit of the church./ Through persecution, the church continues to grow./ Thirdly,/ the prepared comfort./ 1 Thessalonians 1:6/ God will supply the capability to overcome the trials.

/In verse 3,/ *because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.*
/ The reason that we can rejoice in the midst of trials/ is because they test our faith.

/If we are unaware, we tend to be bewildered so/ it is written to desire to properly know it./ The sufferings cannot be overcome through the worldly knowledge./ These can be overcome through possessing the spiritual wisdom.

/The purposes of the trials are/ first,/ it is for the Christians themselves./ It is to make us acknowledge our personal state through the trials./ Matthew 26:69

/Second,/ it is to give instruction to the world./ Revealing our faith to the world,/both the weak will have a firm faith/ and those who do not believe,/ will be led to repentance.

/ God tests us/ and sets the duration of the test/ He looks after us/and improves our faith,/ so that we can advance firmly equipped with hope./ The testing of one's faith can develop one's perseverance.

/This will be done by the grace of God,/ and our habits become solidified by repetitive actions./ We have to continue to burden ourselves on our back./ Through trainings, we can develop a habit to depend on the grace of our Lord/ and earn the character of perseverance.

/Taking the active view on the definition of perseverance,/ it means that no matter what comes into our lives,/we accept them and concern them all came from God./ Passively, it means to fulfill our duties consistently.

/In verse 4/ It is written that *perseverance must finish its work.*/ The meaning of this phrase, *perseverance must finish its work,* is until the perseverance is completed,/ one should persevere/ to meet the every need of becoming a Christian.

/No one can be 100% perfect./ But the true skills of a navigator can be determined in the middle of the storm. / That's why it is written to finish perseverance to be lacking in nothing./ We must advance to become spotless.

/In verse 5,/ *If any of you lack wisdom, he should ask God.*/ What does this passage mean?/ This means to admit the fact that lack of true wisdom in you.

/The wisdom in this context is the wisdom to persevere sufferings./ It is difficult to persevere when there is a trial./ But it is written to ask for it.

/Why do we need wisdom?/ Firstly,/ to discover the purpose of God who gives us sufferings/and how this purpose is expressed,/ and to realize the implication of it.

/Secondly,/ It is to check the characteristics of the suffering./ Is it a trial? Or is it a judgment?

/Thirdly,/ to discover the calling of God in the midst of suffering and to obey it./
Fourthly,/ not to be overwhelmed by the passion of the body./ Proverbs 14:29

/All wisdom must be asked to God./ Our God will not rebuke/ but grant it to us./ It is written, *it will be given to him.*/First,/ God gives wisdom to the people who pray./
Second,/ the content of it must be good./ 1 John 5:14

/Third,/ The attitude of a prayer is faith and desperation./ Psalms 40:1/ Fourth,/ the purpose of a prayer is/to glorify God./ James 4:3

/Even if a good news is being spread,/ it does not have a meaning to me personally, then what kind of good does it have for me?/ That's why what God desires to give must be personally related to us.

/In verse 6,/ *But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt.*/ This means to trust God./ Also, this means an assurance of what is being asked is justified./ Especially, trusting God can be regarded as asking in faith.

/A faithful prayer/ has a proper and reasonable thought about God./ Faith leads our souls to do the things that makes our God glad/and to have some kinds of hope.

/It is said *not to doubt.*/ This means that we must not doubt the grace and promises of God.

/In verse 7,/ *That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord;.*/ This means, although God grants us His grace unlimitedly,/ whoever doubts Him must not think to earn that grace.

/God can also give us wisdom with everything else included./ A man with two hearts is a hypocrite./ And just like someone who is double-minded and soul,/ he cannot find a direction because he is lost in between the two methods.

/ In verse 9,/ *The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position.*/The definition of a "brother in humble circumstances" is the brother who becomes poor for the sake of Christ./ Psalms 9:12-12

/It says that this particular brother in humble circumstances should regard suffering as a privilege and to take pride in it./ Christians ought not to have pride in themselves,/ but have pride in God and/ take pride about the privileges as a Christian.

/Therefore, we must not complain about the providence and the plan of God.

/ In verse 10,/ *But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position.*/ This particular humility refers to the humility from the knowledge that worldly pleasures are pointless./ It says the humility that knowing from the glory and prosperity of this world pass away quickly . / Psalms 37:2/ Jobs 14:2

/ It is possible for us to lose our spirituality when we are prospering./ Therefore, we must ask the grace of God to be more humble./ Prosperity becomes meaningless when we are humble.

In verse 11,/ it says the prosperity in this world will gradually fade away./ In verse 12,/ *Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial.*/ The word "trial" refers to the sufferings./ That is, the suffering for the sake of Christ.

/It says to endure well when we face the suffering./ This means to endure with perseverance.

/Without complaining, without becoming weak, without blaming God, endure with perseverance and persistence.

/ Christians' sufferings cannot mitigate our happiness./ Unlike these worldly things which will be disappeared at any moment, we Christians live with our Lord./ So, we do not have to be anxious that we will lose God.

/ If a person regards the cross as a misery of this world,/ he or she does not regard Christian faith at the utmost degree./ Sufferings augment happiness./ In 2 Corinthians 1:15,/ that passage states that the comfort from Jesus Christ is full in us./ and after that passage, it says "but after who have received approval"

/Before we receive the glorious crown, / we must pass these trials./ God said that, *he will receive the crown of the eternal life that God has promised to those who love him.*

/He guides us to receive the majestic and glorious inheritance of heaven, and/ we participate in the everlasting and unlimited bliss of heaven./ As we receive the crown after our efforts, we also receive the inheritance of heaven after we make the efforts./ Luke 22:29/ Psalms 16:11/ 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

/In verse 13,/ *When tempted.*/ The "temptation" here refers to the temptation of sin./ It is said that *when tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me."*

/God is not responsible for sin./ We commit sins./ And the reason is here./ God is not tested by evil./ For God is holy, He is never tempted by sin.

/And it says *nor does he tempt anyone;*/ God is not a tempter./ For He has no evil in Himself, He is definitely not the one who leads us to sin./ God is the holy God.

/Then who commit sins?/ Take a look at verse 14,/ *but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.*/ The origin of sin is the greed.

/It is the evil desire of the body./ This means that our heart is fully directed to the secular enjoyment,/ and the physical pleasures./ They are the natural outcomes of envy, jealousy and evilness.

/There are some ways to attract one's heart./ Firstly, there is an oppressive force./ This simply means to overcome these evil desires through force./ And there are deceptions that lead us to fall into the pit of worldly desires./ Once we are in there, we are snared in them.

*/Verse 15,/ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin./*The phrase “the desire has conceived” refers to/ the sin is conceived from evil desires which are caused by the pleasures of wicked thoughts.

/It is said it gives birth to sin./ This indicates that the sin is realized through detailed and external actions./ With one’s active agreement, will,/ or honor,/ we apply them in our heart./ And they appear in the forms of specific actions.

/It is written, when it is full-grown./ Sins are formed with details and,/ become more influential and habitually solidified./ This conceives death./ Then the heart is helplessly entangled to sin.

/Verse 16,/ Don't be deceived./ This can be explained as do not be strayed/ or do not misunderstand.

/God does cause our actions to take place/ but He does not cause the evil to be happened. Although God is the source of every creature,/ He is not the source of our sin./ This is a very difficult concept to understand.

/We humans tend to misinterpret/ the truth, so whenever we are incapable of understanding,/ we must pray to receive a correct understanding of it.

/It is dangerous to have a misconception about the attributes of God./ That’s why it is written “Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers.”/

/Verse 17,/ Every good and perfect gift is from above./ What is this gift?/ They are the regeneration, justification, sanctification, and the eternal life.

/They are given not because we are worthy of them/ but it is entirely through the grace of God./ Among the blessings, the spiritual blessing is the most monumental one./ This is originated from the Father of lights./Therefore we must rely on God,/ and walk the path of light.

/In verse 18, it is written that/ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth./ that we might be a kind of first fruits of all he created.

/The first fruit can be defined as/ firstly,/ it can be explained as the Lord’s will to represent the authority on His people./ Secondly,/ the Lord’s will makes us offer the first fruit to express our gratitude towards Him.

/Therefore, we must give thanks to Him in our entire lives./ Also, we should give ourselves to God./ The people of God is the first fruit./ Romans 12:1/ Exodus 13:12/ 2 Corinthians 5:15/ Psalms 144:15

/God works according to His will./ “through the word of truth”, means that we are given birth through the Gospel./ We were born again through Jesus Christ.

/In verse 19,/ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth./ This also indicates that now, we must listen to the Word of God more carefully./ Christians

must follow the Word./ The nature of grace is in increasing our desire for the grace of God./ God's Word leads us to grow./ Ephesus 4:12-13

/It is written that *everyone should be quick to listen.* "Everyone"./ What does this passage tell us?/ This tells us to prepare the heart to be obedient of/ whatever God teaches.

/That's what *should be quick to listen* refers to./ It must be done voluntarily. / And there must be diligence in listening to the Word./ Now it is crucial to listen.

/slow./ This means that regarding the God's Word,/ do not be quick to say this or that./ Until we are ready to comprehend the Word well,/ do not be insolent to speak of the Word.

/It also means not to ~~not~~ be quick in judging the attributes and doctrines of God./ Before we teach others, we must learn first./ This also refers ~~to~~ not to oppose when there is a rebuke according to the Word./ "slow to be angry".

/While listening or speaking of the God's Word, it must not be expressed through anger. The person who teaches Bible must/ not use the Word of God as a vent one's anger./ The fury must not be the foundation of it.

/As for the person who is listening, he or she must not oppose ~~to~~ be others s but/ receive the Word of God with peace and humility. The reason is,/ as this text states, an anger cannot bring out the righteousness of God.

/The "righteousness" here means the one which God requires/ and approves./ We must not be angry to bring out righteousness./ When we are angry, it gives opportunities for Satan to trick our peace in heart. / Ephesus 4:26-27/ Ephesus 4:30

/Being angry is equal to throwing away the faith./ Christianity is originally meek,/ but if we are angry the profession of our faith is being adulterated./ That's why it is written to receive the Word of God with humility and humbleness./ We must let go of the corruption in our hearts/ and receive the Word of God obediently.

/It is difficult for us to repent because we are full of sin./ Gentleness is opposite of pride, and it is humility./ It is a heart of obedience to follow the Word of God.

/It is said that the Word is planted in the heart,/ we must not only realize but/ plant the Word of God in our heart./ The state of being planted in the heart can be explained in this way.

/That is, a state that we have a will to voluntarily fulfill our duty/ through God. He makes us realize His will,/ and obey His Words with love and sincerity.

In verse 22,/ *Do what it says. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves.* When we merely hear to God's Words without deeds, we will be

judged./ The one who acts out the Word/ isare the one who hasve listened to the Word.

/For the pastors and Bible teachers, the visible changes in the lives of the believers are the best compliment they can receive rather than/ the compliments of your sermons.

*/Do not deceive yourselves./*If there is no obedience,/ it becomes a judgment.

/In verse 23,/ Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says/ is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror./ The Word of God is a mirror./ What this mirror reflects/ is God and Jesus Christ./ 2 Corinthians 3:18

/Next,/ this mirror reflects us./ It functions as a mirror reflecting our true state of mind and our sin./ That's why it is written to meditate the Word of God.

/If we do not meditate the Word of God,/ we may completely lose it./ Just like we check ourselves in the mirror,/ we must carefully examine ourselves/ through the necessary understanding of the Word.

*/In verse 25,/ the perfect law that gives freedom./*The perfect law here refers to the Gospel. / It is all the teachings and the words of God./ First, the Bible refers the law as the recorded will of God./ Psalms 1:2

/Second,/ it's the Gospel./ The reason in the perfection of the Gospel is/ in the fact that all of God's will are revealed in it./ The condition needed in adjusting the law is in the Gospel.

/Firstly, fairness/ All laws are fair, equal, holy, and good./ Secondly, its functions as law are furnished by spreading it widely./ If the law is not spread after it is implemented,/ it merely functions as a trap that traps people.

/The maker of the law is God./ The purpose of implementing a law is to save souls./ We must treat laws as we treat the Gospel.

/looks intently./ There are three meanings in this phrase.

/First, mediate the God's Word deeply./ Psalms 1:2/ *Second, research diligently./* 1 Peter 1:10/ *Third, receive a impression lively./* We must treat the Word of God with the heart desiring to work in our hearts.

/When we analyze the perfection of Gospel, there are few characteristics in it./ First,/ for the Word perfects people./ *Second,/ for it leads us to a perfect relationship with God./*

/Third,/ it rules our consciences and personality./ As for the secular law, it merely subjects our externalities./ *Fourth,/ the spirit of it is unchanged forever./* It is right in all times./ *Fifth,/ it is pure and it has no errors./* *Sixth,/ nothing is lacking in God's Word./* 2 Timothy 3:17

/Therefore we must value the Word and/ we must not add anything to it./ Revelation 22:18/ Since the Word is already completed and perfect/, other people who claim that they have received revelation is wrong.

/Moreover, the law frees us./ It teaches us to take the path of freedom from our sin and death./ The duty of obeying the Gospel is the natural outcome of true freedom./ The duty means freedom and the sin is a bond.

/The phrase “do whatever you want to do” is a huge restraint./ The evil man seems free,/ but he or she is covered with the bondage of this world and afterlife./ But as for us believers,/ we freely live in God.

Not to forget the things which one has listened to, a person who looks into the law first in order for us to set our focus on it./ Proverbs 4:21-22/ Second, make a devotion./ Psalms 119:97/ Third,/ apply and confirm it.

/Fourth, meditate it./ Proverbs 9:12/ Luke 2:19/ Fifth, reach our goal./ John 2:17,/ Sixth, practice it,/ Psalms 119:93/ and seventh,/ depend on Holy Spirit/ John 14:26

/Our sin comes from the shortage of our memory./ Psalms 119:139/ Luke 22:62/ Hebrew 12:5/ Psalms 77:1-11/ Exodus 20:8/ *but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does.*/ This is the evidence that whoever obeys the law will be blessed.

/In verse 26,/ If anyone considers himself religious/ and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.

/The author was talking about God, but he suddenly talks about the orphans and widows./ Here it talks about the person who does not practice the Word./ If we say we love God,/ it means we love our neighbors./ The neighbor refers to every person.

/But in particular, it refers to fellow Christians./ It means that we can't love God sincerely if/ we don't love our neighbors./ Since our words can hurt people, we must be careful in speaking. That's what its say in here.

/And sinning through our tongues is severely wrong./ Speaking recklessly is the sin that hypocrites commit./ They are good in criticizing other people./ Also, the tongue clearly reflects the condition of the heart.

/So we must keep a tight rein in our tongue./ If we don't do that, it is possible to say our faith is false./ We must restrain our tongues,/ and look after the orphans and widows./ The authenticity of our faith is/ determined by showing the love for our neighbors and holy lifestyle.

/In verse 27,/ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this/ God is the one who judges./ It is crucial to look after the orphans and widows in the eyes of God./ Caring our neighbors/ and a lifestyle that is not polluted by this world must accompany together.

/The characteristics of the things that are polluted by the world are/ first, these things pollute our minds./ John 17:15/ Second, they are the lust of this world./ 2 Peter 1:4/ Third, they are the people of this world who are filthy and stinky. 2 Timothy 2:21.

/We must take care of the poor as we worship God,/ with the heart filled with awe for the Lord./ It is written, *keep oneself from.*/ This means to have a disgust of the things in this world. Revelation 21:27/ 2 Peter 2:4/ Revelation 3:4/ Revelation 16:15/ 2 Peter 1:4

/This is the end of the lecture 1 of the book of James.

/God bless you.