

# JAMES STUDY

## CHAPTER 1:5-8

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-293 MAY 2, 1998

### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“Lord, Give Us Wisdom”**

### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

The Bumper Sticker Reads  
**“God is Good - Life is Hard”  
don't confuse the two**

Sometimes While In A Trial, Having Our Faith Refined, We May Be Tempted To Think  
The Opposite

~~**“Life would be Good if God wasn't so Hard”**~~

Life Is Full Of Hardship And Tribulations,  
And No One Is Exempt - Even The Christian!

As a result of last week's study, quite a few of you wrote to me saying that  
“life is just too hard and that going on seemed impossible for them...”

Take Heart

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1.) The **Trials** of the Christian Faith vv. 1

They are common to the Christian and Necessary

2.) The **Proving** of the Christian's Faith vv. 2

They are as Tools in God's workshop

### 3.) The Development of the Christian's Faith

vv. 3

They come to us specially designed of God

### 4.) The Maturing of the Christian's Faith

vv. 4

They produce a deep and enduring Character

The Trials in Life Naturally cause us to want to Know Why

The Word of God Brings the needed Knowledge  
But it is Wisdom that appropriates the knowledge

## Wisdom is the Proper Use of Knowledge

You can be a Nobel Prize winning Rocket Scientist and yet possess very little or no wisdom at all

Knowledge can be Acquired -- But Wisdom is Received

"We will not always have knowledge of what to do in the middle of a trial but we can have the wisdom of God to see us through it"

When knowledge is scarce - faith provides what we need

We are Developed under the pressure of Trials

#### Understand the Facts

Acts 14:22b

... "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

#### Know the Full story

John 16:33b

...In the world you will have tribulation;  
but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

#### Stand in the place of Victory

Romans 8:34-37 KJV

Who is he that condemneth? (A lot of people, just take a stand and see - you can name them) It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we

are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

This all adds to our knowledge

## The Summation Sentence

The summation sentence is a sentence or very brief statement that announces the overall meaning of the studied text. This statement should capsule the body of the message that is to be presented in this particular teaching.

Knowledge with wisdom

By acquiring knowledge, man has learned how to travel 30,000 miles an hour through space

We are a generation that has known the most of technology in all the history of the world, but we have used the least amount of wisdom in using that knowledge

### 1.) Wisdom is Available

vv. 5

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

#### 1a.) We are to Ask for Wisdom

vv. 5a

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God

Having a working knowledge of the trial only educates us as to the mechanics of it

Wisdom is what allows us to capitalize from the trial

We need to pray, asking God:  
Please Lord Give Me Wisdom for this

One of the Oldest Questions Recorded in Human History  
from the oldest writing known to mankind

The Book of Job 28:20 NIV  
"From where then does wisdom come? And where does understanding live?"

#### 1b.) Wisdom is to be Had by Us All

vv. 5b

Who gives to all **liberally** and **without reproach**,

1c.) Wisdom Shows Us 'How to' Apply Knowledge vv. 5c

And it will be given to him.

God Can Afford It

Jesus is the personification of wisdom

What He says, what He does, what He

3.) Wisdom for the moment v.8

He is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

3a.) v. 8

He is a double-minded man

Verse 8

He is a **double-minded** man, **unstable** in all his ways.

His double-mindedness results in an unstable life

He may have acquired the best education and possess vast amounts of knowledge,  
but without wisdom he is an emotionally governed man

David's Recovery from Sin

Psalm 51:6  
Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part  
You will make me to know wisdom.

David had Knowledge of God's Word  
(What he was to do and what not to do)

It was at a time of weakness - when wisdom was neglected

James 1:5-8

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. <sup>6</sup> But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; <sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

## 1.) ASK THE RIGHT PERSON

### a.) going to Him and not man

## Stop going to people

*Job 28:12-23*

- 12 *"But where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding?*  
13 *Man does not know its value, nor is it found in the land of the living.*  
14 *The deep says, 'It is not in me'; and the sea says, 'It is not with me.'*  
15 *It cannot be purchased for gold, nor can silver be weighed for its price.*  
16 *It cannot be valued in the gold of Ophir, in precious onyx or sapphire.*  
17 *Neither gold nor crystal can equal it, nor can it be exchanged for jewelry of fine gold.*  
18 *No mention shall be made of coral or quartz, for the price of wisdom is above rubies.*  
19 *The topaz of Ethiopia cannot equal it, nor can it be valued in pure gold.*  
20 *"From where then does wisdom come? And where is the place of understanding?*  
21 *It is hidden from the eyes of all living, and concealed from the birds of the air.*  
22 *Destruction and Death say, 'We have heard a report about it with our ears.'*  
23 *God understands its way, and He knows its place.*

*Proverbs 8:10-17*

- 10 *Receive my instruction, and not silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold;*  
11 *For wisdom is better than rubies, and all the things one may desire cannot be compared with her.*  
12 *"I, wisdom, dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge and discretion.*  
13 *The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate.*  
14 *Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom; I am understanding, I have strength.*  
15 *By me kings reign, and rulers decree justice.*  
16 *By me princes rule, and nobles, all the judges of the earth.*  
17 *I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently will find me.*

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

- 5 *Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;*  
6 *In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*

*1 Kings 3:3-13*

- 3 *And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places.*

- 4 *Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.*
- 5 *At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?"*
- 6 *And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.*
- 7 *"Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.*
- 8 *"And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.*
- 9 *"Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"*
- 10 *The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing.*
- 11 *Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice,*
- 12 *"behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.*
- 13 *"And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days.*

Psalm 111:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

*b.) recognize the need*

## *We need to confess our need*

NOTICE HOW GOD GIVES

### *1. Continuously*

### *2. Generously*

Philippians 4:19

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus

### *3. Tenderly*

## 2.) ASK THE RIGHT QUESTION

## 3.) ASK IN THE RIGHT WAY

*in faith*

*in prayer*