

INTRODUCTION

- * Today, we begin a study of the book of James.
- * This is thought to be the earliest written New Testament book (44-49 AD) ... written only 15-20 years after the death of Jesus. The next is considered to be Paul's letter to the Galatians in 49 AD; then Matthew and Mark in the 50-60 AD range
- * Today, we want to consider the author of the letter, his intended audience, and the general theme of the book.

INSTRUCTION**I. A CONSIDERATION OF THE A_____ (v. 1)****A. His N_____****B. His I_____**

- * cf. Matthew 13:53-58; 27:55-61; Mark 15:39-41
- * cf. Galatians 1:18-19; 1 Corinthians 9:5; 15:3-8; Jude 1:1
- * cf. Galatians 2:9,12; Acts 12:17; 15:13; 21:18

C. His T_____

- * A_____ (cf. Ephesians 6:8; Colossians 3:11; Titus 2:9; Romans 6:16-20)
- * Contrasted with a(n)_____ (cf. Luke 12:42; Luke 16:1-8)
- * Contrasted with a(n)_____ (cf. Matthew 9:37-38; 20:1-8; Luke 10:7 ... cf. Matthew 21:33-40)
- * Contrasted with a(n)_____ (cf. Matthew 20:26-27; 22:13; 23:11; John 2:5,9; 1 Cor 3:5; 2 Cor 11:15)

II. A CONSIDERATION OF THE A_____ (v. 1; cf. Acts 8:1; 1 Peter 1:1)**III. A CONSIDERATION OF THE T_____ (v. 17-18)****A. Understanding Who God Is**

1. HE IS _____
 - * cf. Genesis 1:14-16; Psalm 136:7; Ezekiel 32:8; Zechariah 14:6; Philippians 2:15
 - * cf. Genesis 15:5; Deuteronomy 1:10; Jeremiah 33:10
2. HE IS _____ (cf. Psalm 89:28-37; Malachi 3:6; Romans 11:29; Hebrews 1:11-12; 6:13-20; 13:8)
3. HE IS _____

B. Understanding What God Does

1. HE GIVES _____!
 - a. Every _____ (cf. Romans 8:28; Matthew 7:11; Matthew 5:43-48; Matthew 20:1-16 (v. 15))
 - b. Every _____ (cf. Mark 5:45; John 4:10; Acts 8:20; Romans 3:24; 2 Corinthians 9:15; 2 Peter 1:3-4)
2. HE GIVES _____!
 - a. How?
 - i. *By His Own Will* (cf. James 3:4; 4:4; 1 Corinthians 12:11; 1 Timothy 2:8; 5:14 ... James 4:15)
 - ii. *By His Own Word of truth* (cf. John 17:17; Ephesians 1:13; 2 Timothy 2:15)
 - a. Why? (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; John 3:3-5; Ephesians 4:20-24)

INTROSPECTION

- * Have you received the Good and Perfect Gift of Salvation?
- * Are you living out your faith in the wisdom of God, or are you heeding the words of man?
- * Do you consider yourself a bond-servant of God?
- * Are you desiring to serve Christ in every facet of your life?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How can we - as a body - better hold fast the Word of Life and reflect the Father of Lights in the midst of this crooked and perverse generation?