



JAMES AND JUDE

Insight for Believers (James 1)

Intro: Refiner's Fire Lyrics

I. Trials (v 2-4)

- A. Command
- B. Truth
- C. Knowledge

II. Wisdom (v 5-8)

- A. Practical
- B. Divine
- C. Christ-like

III. Managing Resources (v 9-11)

Closing: "Good Legacies from Bad Events"

Study Questions from Life Application Study Bible

- 1) *Read James 1:6. A person with divided loyalty is not completely convinced that God's way is best. Such a person treats God's Word like a merely human source and reserves the right to follow it or not. He or she alternates between allegiance to subjective feelings, the world's ideas, and God's instructions. If your faith is new, weak, or struggling, remember that you can trust that God's words to you are accurate, final, and best. To stabilize your wavering or doubtful mind, commit yourself wholeheartedly to whatever he says. Can you share a time in your life when you debated between God's instruction and your feelings or the world's ideas? **Pray** in faith asking God to help you trust Him.*
- 2) *Read James 1:9-11 If wealth, power, and status mean nothing to God, why do we attribute so much importance to them and so much honor to those who possess them? Is managing and accumulating material possessions one of your primary goals or the thing that gives you the most meaning in life? If they were gone, what would you do? How would you feel? What you have in your heart matters to God and endures for eternity.*

James 1:2-11 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet **trials** of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵ If any of you lacks **wisdom**, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

⁹ Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰ and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. ¹¹ For the sun rises with its scorching heat and **withers** the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ **Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**

Hebrews 12:11 For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Luke 14:28 For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Ecclesiastes 7:12 For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV) The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down.

Proverb 22:7 The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

Romans 8:18,20-21,24-25 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us ... ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God ... ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.