

James 1:1-18

v1 – tribes	(noun)	groups of people of the same race, language and customs
v1 – scattered	(adjective)	spread across an area in an irregular way
v2 – consider	(verb)	think of something in a particular way
v2 – joy	(noun)	gladness; great happiness
v2 – trials	(noun)	difficulties; sufferings; hard times
v3 – perseverance	(noun)	the quality of continuing on with something even though it is difficult
v4 – mature	(adjective)	fully developed
v5 – wisdom	(noun)	the ability to use and act on what you know
v5 – generously	(adverb)	willingly and in large quantities
v5 – ‘finding fault’	(phrase)	criticism
v6 – doubt	(noun)	uncertainty; lack of belief
v6 – tossed	(adjective)	thrown back and forth, and up and down
v8 – ‘double-minded’	(adjective)	undecided
v9 – humble	(adjective)	lowly; not having a lot of money
v9 – ‘take pride in’	(phrase)	be pleased and satisfied with
v10 – wild	(adjective)	lives in natural surroundings and not looked after by humans
v11 – scorching	(adjective)	very hot
v11 – blossom	(noun)	flower
v12 – blessed	(adjective)	experiencing the favour of God
v13 – tempted	(verb)	caused to want to do something that is wrong
v13 – evil	(adjective)	morally bad; against God’s standards
v14 – desire	(noun)	strong wish for something
v14 – dragged	(verb)	pulled away with force
v14 – enticed	(verb)	led to do something that is not wrong
v15 – conceived	(verb)	becomes pregnant

v16 – deceived	(adjective)	led to believe something that is false
v17 – shifting	(adjective)	moving; changing shapes
v18 – firstfruits	(noun)	the first pieces of fruit to be harvested in a season

James 1:1-18 (New International Reader's Version)

¹ I, James, am writing this letter. I serve God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I am sending this letter to you, the 12 tribes scattered among the nations.

Greetings.

² My brothers and sisters, you will face all kinds of trouble. When you do, think of it as pure joy. ³ Your faith will be tested. You know that when this happens it will produce in you the strength to continue. ⁴ And you must allow this strength to finish its work. Then you will be all you should be. You will have everything you need. ⁵ If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone and doesn't find fault. ⁶ But when you ask, you must believe. You must not doubt. That's because a person who doubts is like a wave of the sea. The wind blows and tosses them around. ⁷ They shouldn't expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ This kind of person can't make up their mind. They can never decide what to do.

⁹ Here's what believers who are in low positions in life should be proud of. They should be proud that God has given them a high position in the kingdom. ¹⁰ But rich people should take pride in their low positions. That's because they will fade away like wild flowers. ¹¹ The sun rises. Its burning heat dries up the plants. Their blossoms fall. Their beauty is destroyed. In the same way, rich people will fade away. They fade away even as they go about their business.

¹² Blessed is the person who keeps on going when times are hard. After they have come through hard times, this person will receive a crown. The crown is life itself. The Lord has promised it to those who love him.

¹³ When a person is tempted, they shouldn't say, "God is tempting me." God can't be tempted by evil. And he doesn't tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted by their own evil desires. These desires lead them on and drag them away. ¹⁵ When these desires are allowed to remain, they lead to sin. And when sin is allowed to remain and grow, it leads to death.

¹⁶ My dear brothers and sisters, don't let anyone fool you. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from God. This kind of gift comes down from the Father who created the heavenly lights. These lights create shadows that move. But the Father does not change like these shadows. ¹⁸ God chose to give us new birth through the message of truth. He wanted us to be the first harvest of his new creation.

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