

**James 3:1-12**

v1 – presume	(verb)	do something even though you have no right to do so
v1 – strictly	(adverb)	involving clear and precise rules that must be obeyed
v2 – stumble	(verb)	trip or fall while walking or running
v2 – ‘at fault’	(phrase)	responsible for a particular situation that has gone wrong
v2 – ‘in check’	(phrase)	under control
v3 – bit	(noun)	mouthpiece that is part of a bridle, which is made of leather and put around a horse’s head to control it



v4 – steered	(verb)	driven in a particular direction
v4 – rudder	(noun)	a small piece on the rear of a ship that is used to drive it in a particular direction



v4 – pilot	(noun)	the person who drives a ship
v5 – great	(adjective)	large
v5 – spark	(noun)	a tiny bright piece of burning material that flies up from something that is burning
v6 – corrupts	(verb)	damages or spoils
v6 – hell	(noun)	the place where’s God’s enemies will experience punishment and separation from God forever
v7 – reptiles	(noun)	cold-blooded animals such as snakes, lizards etc
v7 – being tamed	(verb)	being trained to be able to be controlled by people
v8 – deadly	(adjective)	likely to kill
v8 – poison	(noun)	something that will kill someone that comes into contact with it (through eating it, touching it etc.)
v9 – curse	(verb)	use rude or offensive language; insult someone
v9 – ‘in God’s likeness’		in God’s image; patterned after God
v11 – spring	(noun)	a place where water comes up through the ground
v12 – bear	(verb)	produce

v12 – olive (noun) a type of fruit



v12 – grapevine (noun) the plant that grapes grow on



v12 – figs (noun) a type of fruit



**James 3:1-12 (New International Reader's Version)**

<sup>1</sup> My brothers and sisters, most of you shouldn't become teachers. That's because you know that those of us who teach will be held more accountable. <sup>2</sup> All of us get tripped up in many ways. Suppose someone is never wrong in what they say. Then they are perfect. They are able to keep their whole body under control.

<sup>3</sup> We put a small piece of metal in the mouth of a horse to make it obey us. We can control the whole animal with it. <sup>4</sup> And how about ships? They are very big. They are driven along by strong winds. But they are steered by a very small rudder. It makes them go where the captain wants to go. <sup>5</sup> In the same way, the tongue is a small part of a person's body. But it talks big. Think about how a small spark can set a big forest on fire. <sup>6</sup> The tongue is also a fire. The tongue is the most evil part of the body. It makes the whole body impure. It sets a person's whole way of life on fire. And the tongue itself is set on fire by hell.

<sup>7</sup> People have tamed all kinds of wild animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures. And they still tame them. <sup>8</sup> But no one can tame the tongue. It is an evil thing that never rests. It is full of deadly poison.

<sup>9</sup> With our tongues we praise our Lord and Father. With our tongues we curse people. We do it even though people have been created to be like God. <sup>10</sup> Praise and cursing come out of the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, it shouldn't be this way. <sup>11</sup> Can fresh water and salt water flow out of the same spring? <sup>12</sup> My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree produce olives? Can a grapevine produce figs? Of course not. And a saltwater spring can't produce fresh water either.

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