



An Introduction to James!

September 10, 2023 – James 1:1

Pastor Jon Pickens

Historical Background

1. The Author:
 - a. James is highly likely to be the **brother** of Jesus.

 - b. James considers himself to be a **servant** of Christ.

2. The Recipient: The letter was written to **Jewish believers** scattered from Jerusalem.

3. Timing: This letter seems to be written **early** in the history of the church.

4. Theme: Genuine faith is working in us to transform our **character** and **behavior**.

Two questions to consider as we begin this series:

1. What posture do you take before the Lord Jesus?
2. How is your faith transforming your character and behavior?

Discussion Questions:

1. What did you find interesting about the background of the book of James?
2. James considers himself a servant of Christ. What does that mean in practical terms?
3. What makes it difficult for you to take the same posture as a servant of Christ?
4. How does faith transform the character and behavior of the Christian?
5. How has your faith in Christ transformed your character and behavior in the past year?
6. What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?

Next Steps:

1. If you would like to become a follower of Jesus, please let us know. Pastor Jon will be in the room behind the Welcome Center after the service.
2. If you are interested in baptism, let Pastor Jon know in person or email him at pj@fbclowell.org.
3. Read the Bible with us to know God and respond to Him! Below is our current schedule.

September 2023 (Two Year Reading Plan, Month 21)			
Week 1 Starting Sept 4	Week 2 Starting Sept 11	Week 3 Starting Sept 18	Week 4 Starting Sept 25
Day 1: Luke 21	Day 1: John 4-5	Day 1: John 11	Day 1: John 20-21
Day 2: Luke 22-23	Day 2: John 6	Day 2: John 12-13	Day 2: Acts 1
Day 3: Luke 24	Day 3: John 7	Day 3: John 14-15	Day 3: Acts 2-3
Day 4: John 1-2	Day 4: John 8	Day 4: John 16-17	Day 4: Acts 4
Day 5: John 3	Day 5: John 9-10	Day 5: John 18-19	Day 5: Acts 5-6
¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.			
¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.			
Colossians 2:17-18 (NIV)			

What action are you going to take as a result of what God's Word teaches?