

# James 1:1-12

## Shoe-leather Christianity

For April 6, 2008

LESSON 1

Dr. Jerry Nelson

*Questions are to be completed the week of March 30 leading up to the sermon on April 6.*

## The Testing of Faith

Read James 1:1-12 and answer the following questions:

1. (1:1) To what ethnic group is James apparently primarily addressing his letter?

From the Gospel accounts, who, most likely, is James?  
(Cf. Galatians 1:19; Acts 12:17).

2. (1:2-3) How does James define “trials”?

What is to be our attitude in the midst of “trials”?

What benefit is derived from “trials”/ “testing of your faith”?

3. (1:4) What is the “finished work” of “perseverance”?

4. (1:5-8) What is God willing to generously supply if we ask?

What is the prerequisite for receiving this wisdom we lack?

In what ways does James describe the doubting person?

How does a “wind-tossed wave” describe a person?

Give other words to a “double-minded” and “unstable” person.

5. (1:9) How is being “rich” actually a “low position”?

How will awareness that “he will pass away like a flower,” help one who is rich take pride in his low position?

6. (1:11) What is the withering plant metaphor intended to communicate?

7. (1:12) “Trial” (*Peirosomos*) = test, trial, temptation. “Test” (*dokimos*) = proved by testing, genuine.

How do wisdom-seeking (verses 6-8) and the rich/poor contrast (verses 9-11) fit with the perseverance instruction of verses 2-4 and 12?

How does James define “perseverance”? In what two ways does James describe the benefit of persevering?

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

**Memory Verse:** James 1:5

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

For VerseMinder go to <http://soundliving.org/verseminder.shtml>

