

## HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

### The Book of James – Part 1

#### James, the Lord's Brother

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are beginning a new series of studies on the Book of James. Our topic today: James, the Lord's Brother.

Scripture Theme Song: "Bless the LORD" – Psalm 103:1-4

- 1) The identity of the author
  - a) James 1:1
  - b) Luke 6:13-16
  - c) Matthew 13:55
  - d) Galatians 1:19
  - e) Acts 15:13
  - f) What do these passages reveal about Jesus, the Lord's brother?
- 2) From skepticism to faith
  - a) Mark 3:21
  - b) John 7:3-5
    - i) Behavior of older brothers.
    - ii) Step brothers, children of Joseph by a previous marriage. (See also John 19:26-27)
  - c) Acts 1:12-14
  - d) 1 Corinthians 15:3-7
  - e) What lesson can we learn from this remarkable conversion of the brothers of Jesus?
- 3) Leadership of the church in Jerusalem
  - a) Acts 12:16-17 (A.D. 44)
  - b) Acts 15:13-21 (A.D. 49)
  - c) Acts 21:17-19
  - d) Galatians 1:18-19
  - e) Galatians 2:9
- 4) The author's intended audience
  - a) James 1:1b (1 Peter 1:1)
  - b) Acts 11:19-21
  - c) Acts 1:8
  - d) 1 Peter 2:9-10
  - e) Who are the 12 tribes scattered abroad?
- 5) The importance of genuine faith (faith and believing mentioned 19x)
  - a) James 1:2-3
  - b) James 2:5,22-23
  - c) James 5:15
  - d) Some have accused James of promoting the idea of salvation by faith and works. However, what James calls for is a faith that works. What is the difference?
  - e) James 1:22 (Matthew 7:24-27)
  - f) James 3:12 (Matthew 7:16)
- 6) The importance of humility
  - a) If James is indeed the Lord's brother, why does he refer to himself as "a bondservant of the Lord Jesus Christ"? (doulos—slave)
  - b) James 4:6,10
  - c) James 4:12 (Matthew 7:1)
  - d) Why is humility so important for the Christian?
  - e) Why do you think the message of James so closely mirrors the teachings of Jesus? (Matthew 28:19-20)