

JAMES A BROTHER Of JESUS

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

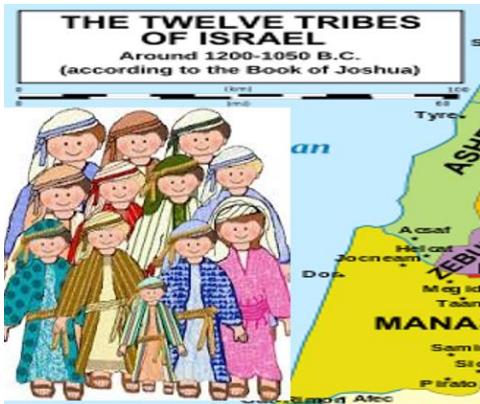
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JAMES A BROTHER of JESUS

We looked at James history as a brother of Jesus and leader in the church



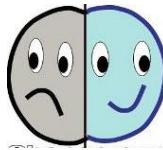
We considered the 12 tribes and 10 lost tribes



(past weeks review)



We looked belief that is not double-minded



Then last week we looked wisdom from God that is not IQ or schooling



...and learned that the fear[respect] of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge

JAMES A BROTHER Of JESUS

Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position.

But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower.

For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed.

In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

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What does
this mean?

Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in
their high position.

Kαυχάσθω
to boast 

Proverbs 8:13
The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; **Pride** and arrogance and the evil
way And the perverse mouth I hate.

I thought
pride was
sinful?

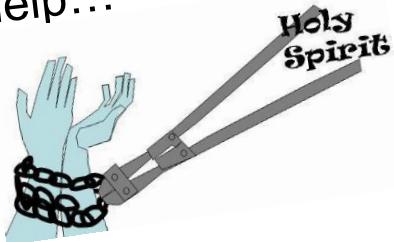
SEVEN DEADLY SINS

- 1 Lust
- 2 Gluttony
- 3 Greed
- 4 Sloth
- 5 Wrath
- 6 Envy
- 7 Pride

JAMES A BROTHER Of JESUS

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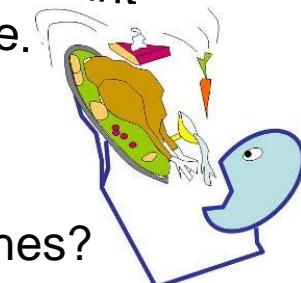
The humble on this earth have their faith and the reality of religion tried and exposed. They have full opportunity to grasp God's hand and get help...



Kαυχάσθω
to boast

Proverbs 8:13
The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; **Pride** and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate.

There is nothing to hide in, or confuse the poor person with worthless desires, or misdirect their understanding of the basic important aspects of life.



Yet do you think James is saying poorer humble people should *desire* riches?

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Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in
their high position.

Ταπεινὸς
low-lying, fig. lowly, hence lowly in spirit

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will pass away like a wild flower.

Ταπεινώσει
tapeinōsei
low estate

Spiritual positions?

But also LIFE positions?

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While doing business, where do the rich focus their minds? How likely is it they are considering doing God's work as they work?

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Blessed is the one who *perseveres under trial* because, having stood the test, that person will receive the *crown of life* that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

Revelation 2:10
New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁰ Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

James was written somewhere around 45 to 50 A.D.

In what way could this have had a bearing on what James was writing?

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“Abandon Ship”

These were the last known words of Robin Walbridge, who was Captain of the Bounty a replica of the HMS bounty. The Bounty was a reconstruction of the 1787 British Royal Navy sailing ship and it capsized off North Carolina U.S.A. during hurricane Sandy.

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Many of us want to abandon ship on a promise we have made.

Normally due to the **difficulty** in **keeping to the promise** when times get tough. Yet God never promises us a life without **difficulties**, only a heavenly reward when life ends.

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Christians must have integrity!

We are people who live for more than life and so should not be submerged into life troubles to the point of giving up on our promises.

Sometimes it is hard to keep swimming through the difficulties and doing what we say, *but we should rather be careful of promising something which we cannot deliver.*

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One of these trials we need to persevere under is keeping our word.



It can be difficult and even dangerous. Robin Walbridge died in that heaving ocean looking for his crew safety first so they had the greatest chance of survival. This may have been to courage, or guilt. With us either is often the driver, but for Walbridge perhaps it was guilt and making up for wrong decisions as he had directed the ship into the path of the hurricane. Whether he did this deliberately or not is difficult to know.

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Blessed is the one who *perseveres under trial* because, having stood the test, that person will receive the *crown of life* that the Lord has promised to those who love him.



**When we make decisions,
sometimes bad ones, what do we
do?**

Do we look for the path of integrity and truth and follow it empowered by prayer and dedication to God?

... or do we give up and fold?

Easy to say,
Tougher to do, right?

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Asking “**what will give God the glory**” should be a measure of how we decide to continue.

Moses said to Joshua

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you”

Deuteronomy 31:6.



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This is referred to by Paul who says in Hebrews 13:5

Keep your lives **free from the love of money** and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

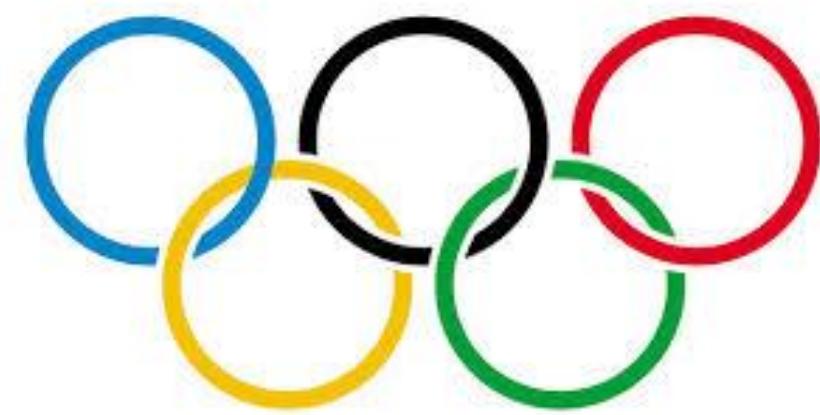
⁶ So we say with confidence,
“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can mere mortals do to me?”

God is with us through good times and tough times. Let's remember that tough times are times of spiritual growth, if we develop the ability to **stick to God through them.**

The winter Olympics are just over again.

How many of the athletes do you think got there without huge amounts of strain, pain and struggle?



I would hazard to say...none!

True success comes from working through the troubles to the reward.

The joy for us Christians is that is not only one gold medal for those who stay true to the end.

The winter Olympics are just over again.

How many of the athletes do you think got there without huge amounts of strain, pain and struggle?



*Live with Integrity
for Jesus sake!*

I would hazard to say...none!

No! God has a reward greater than any Gold medal for each and everyone who stay true to the end.

Today is probably not going to go easy...but we should keep our word and claim our spiritual prize.

SGC Celebrate - Kearney, Ontario - HELPING OUR COMMUNITY WITH LOVE AND SERVICE (we meet 3pm Sundays)

SCG Celebrate - Kearney - Serve, Love, and find Truth

Blog

Home

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Virtual Communication

Downloads

Fun!

Celebration



Who leads this work?	We acknowledge Jesus as our leader and God, Jesus' Father, as the one God supremely worthy of our full worship. We acknowledge Holy Spirit as the one through whom God's work is done daily by those who affirm and believe this by following the guidelines provided in the Holy Bible.
What is our fundamental statement of faith?	The contents of the Christian bible! However we summarise our beliefs using the <u>Nicene creed</u> , a contemporary copy of which is found on this site.
Where does the money collected go?	Every cent goes back into the community to help those in need. Each meeting we decide where our gifts are to go. This makes us fairly unique as a church!
Who can attend?	Anyone who has internet access or can get to Ken and Penny's home. <u>See location</u> . Currently located in Kearney, Ontario, Canada, for those who want to attend in person.
Where is the primary Celebration location?	In the homes of believers who attend, currently in Kearney, and on the internet via the SGC Celebrate website conferencing and meeting tools. Currently we meet at the home of Ken and Penny on the right hand side of the road as you enter Kearney on HWY 518.

Do the people in our community believe we live
with Integrity
for Jesus sake!