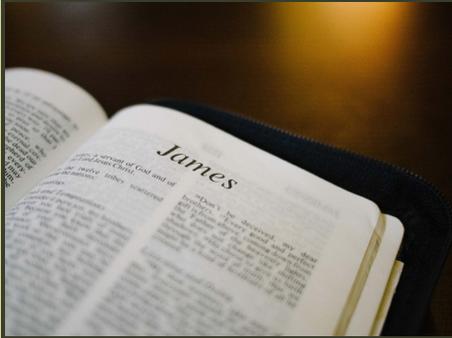


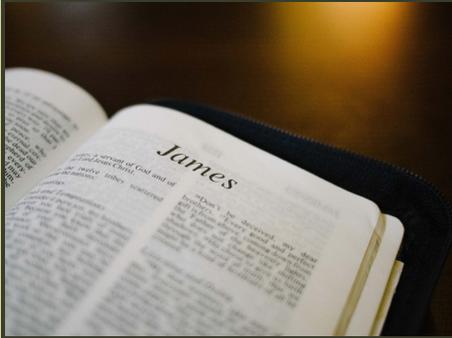
Introducing James

- Question 1 – James is located in the Old Testament or New Testament?
- Answer – New Testament



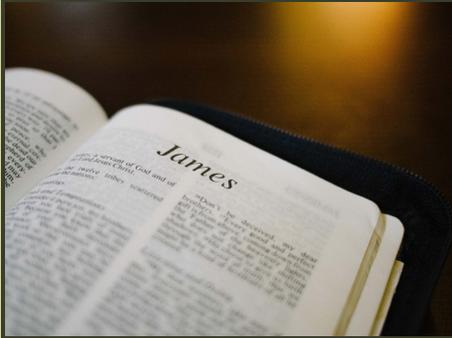
Introducing James

- Question 2 – James is the what numbered book of the 27 New Testament books?
- Answer – 20



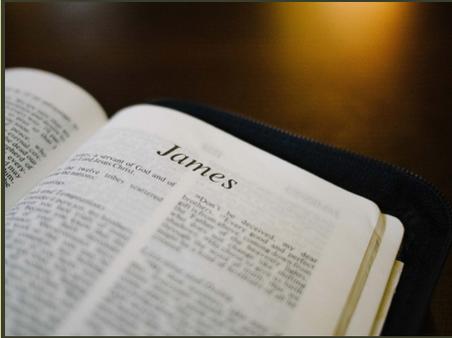
Introducing James

- Question 3 – How many different “James”s are there in the New Testament. . .not books, but people?
- Answer - 4



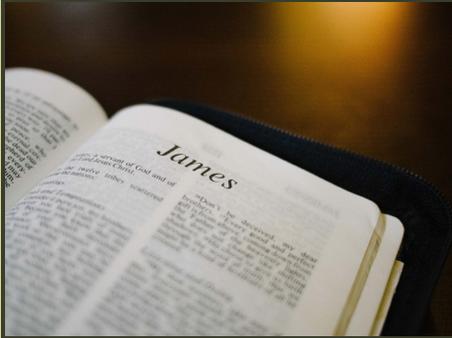
Introducing James

- Question 4 - Who is the author of the book of James, and simply saying “James” does not count. . . which James?
- Answer - James, the half brother of Jesus, “James the Just”



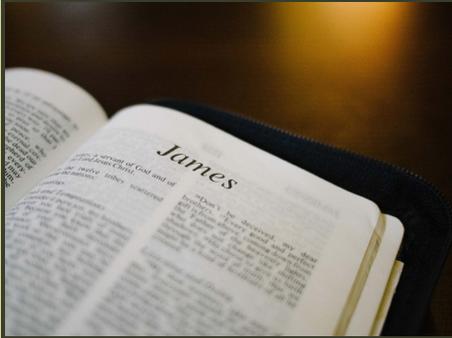
Introducing James

- Question 5 – When was the book of James written?
- Answer - mid to late 40s



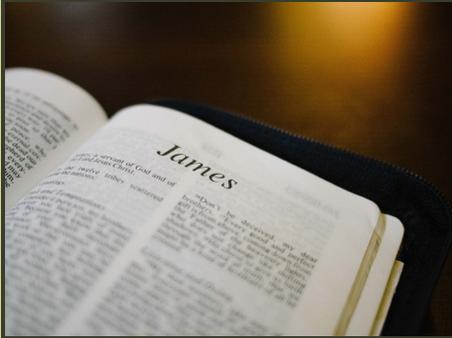
Introducing James

- Question 6 – Who was the book of James written to?
- Answer - Jewish Believers



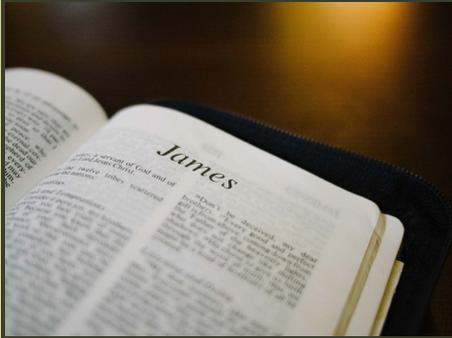
Introducing James

- Purpose
- To live a vital, active, and practical Christian life



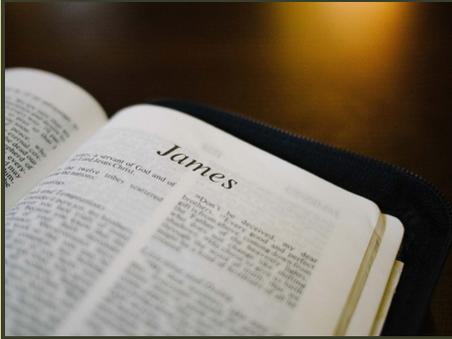
Staying strong in trials

- “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.



Staying strong in trials

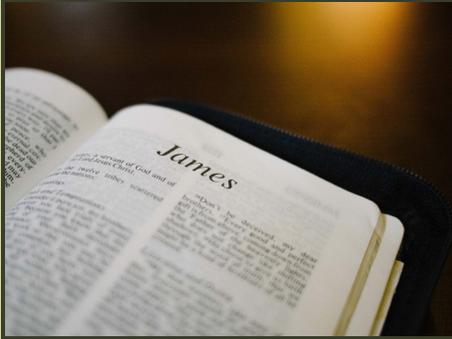
- If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.



Staying strong in trials

- That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.!”

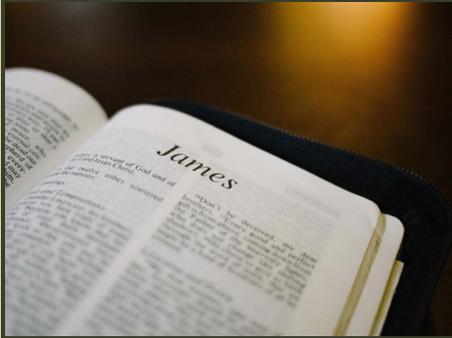
James 1:2-8



Staying strong in trials

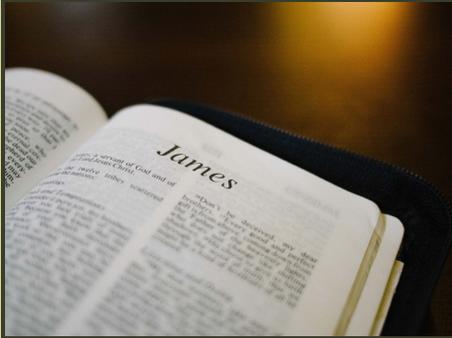
- “It is a false gospel that says just come to Christ and it’ll be all honey and no bees.”

Adrian Rogers



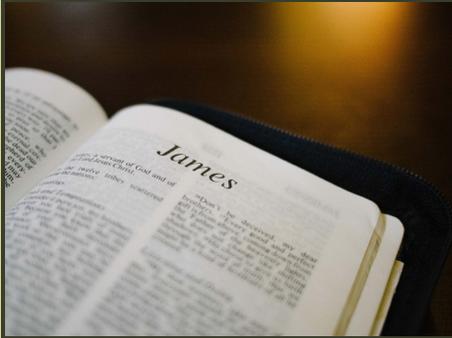
Staying strong in trials

- “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.



Staying strong in trials

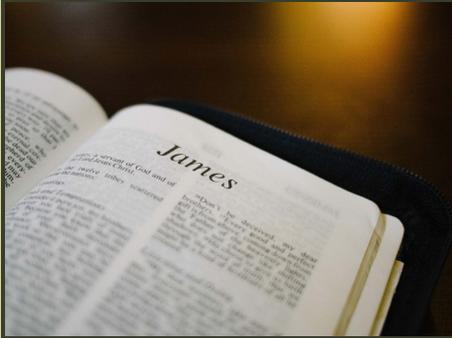
- Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame,



Staying strong in trials

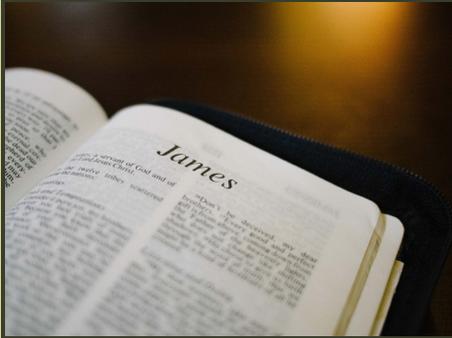
- because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Romans 5:1-5



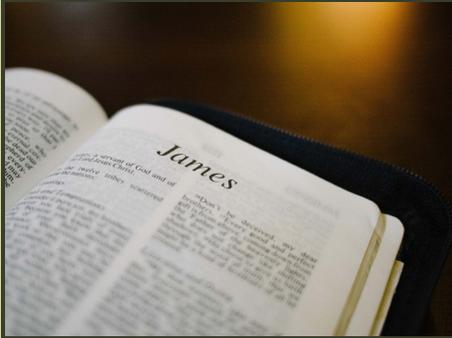
Staying strong in trials

- God is the lavish giver of wisdom to those who really want it
- To have a faith that is not tossed back and forth but to be confident and solid
- “James, the ‘in your face’ epistle.”



Staying strong in circumstances

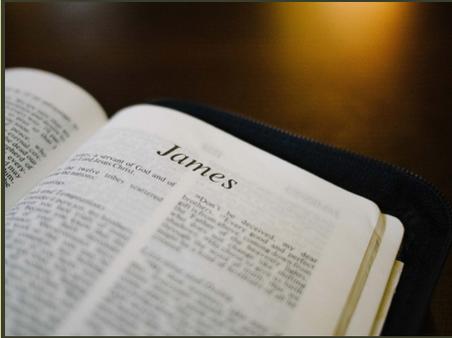
- “Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant;



Staying strong in circumstances

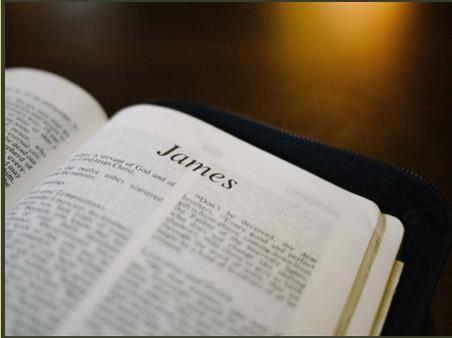
- its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.”

James 1:9-11



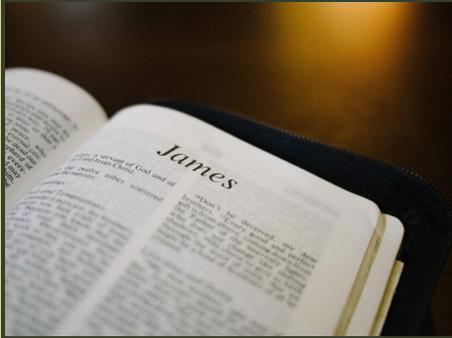
Staying strong in circumstances

- Trials are external and imposed upon us
- Circumstances are the daily reality of our lives



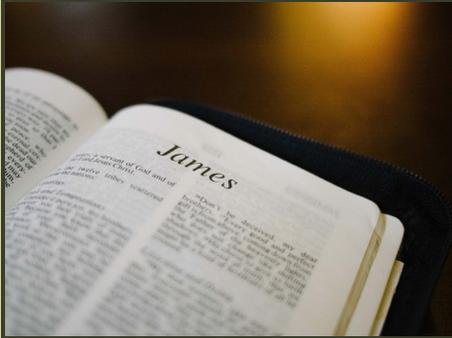
Staying strong in circumstances

- A poor Christian should be proud of his exalted position in Jesus Christ
- A rich Christian should be glad that he has discovered there are more important things than wealth



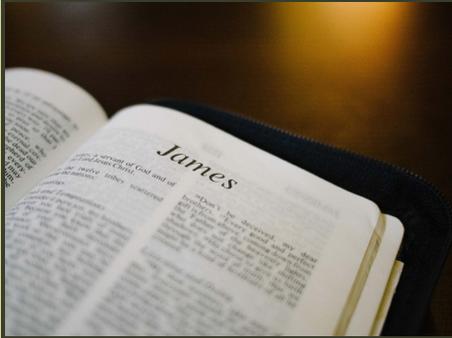
Staying strong in circumstances

- We are all reliant on the grace and mercy of God equally



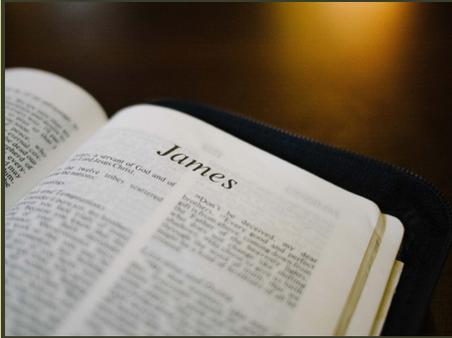
Staying strong in temptation

- “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 tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.”



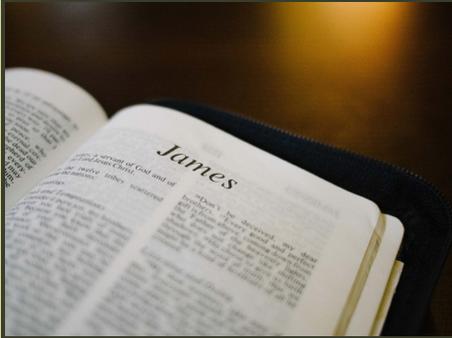
Staying strong in temptation

- For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.” James 1:12-15



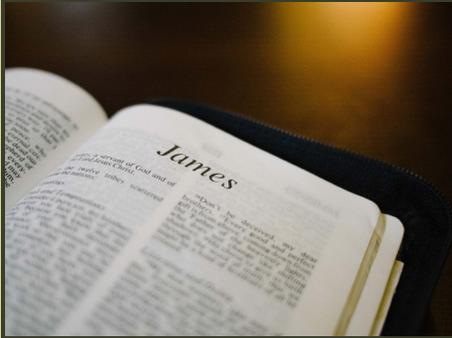
Staying strong in temptation

- God promises life which is life indeed
- We should hang in there when temptation strikes because we have the full promises of God to look forward to



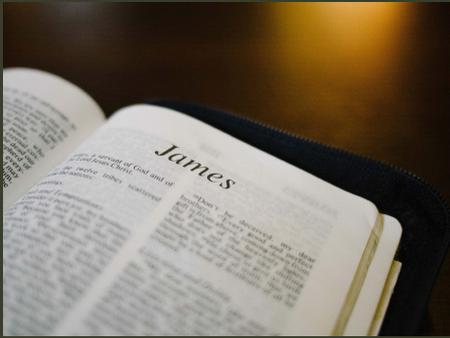
Staying strong in temptation

- Stay strong in the face of temptation because we have the full riches of being God's children to draw on to help and sustain us
- Temptation comes from the things in our lives which still need God's redeeming touch



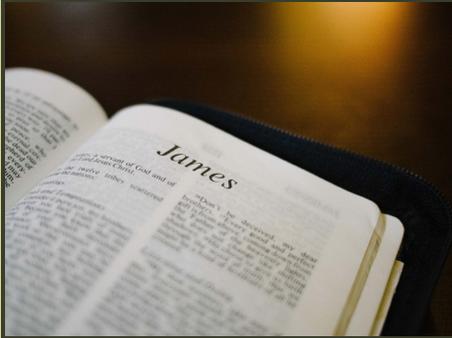
Staying strong in the Gospel

- “Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created” James 1:16-18



Staying strong in the Gospel

- God remains the same Holy and just God that he has always been
- God's holiness caused God to choose to give us life
- We are to stay strong in the gospel truths of forgiveness, hope and security



Staying Strong

- *Staying strong in trials*
- *Staying strong in circumstances*
- *Staying strong in temptation*
- *Staying strong in the Gospel*