

Test yourself.

**DO YOU HAVE A DIVIDED HEART? DO YOU....**

- Fail to understand the purpose of trials
- Doubt the wisdom and purposes of God
- Presume to plan without reference to God

**DO YOU RECOGNISE YOUR OWN SINFUL DESIRES?**

- Are the true source of temptation?
- Result in misusing your tongue?
- Cause all kinds of quarrels and fights?
- Urge you to be friends with the world?

**DO YOU HAVE FAITH WITHOUT ACTIONS?**

- Fail to put into practice what you learn?
- Fail to love by showing favouritism?
- Fail to do the good things you know you should?

**WILL YOU SINCERELY PRAY THIS PRAYER?**

*Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.  
I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart;  
I will glorify your name forever.      **Ps 86:11-12***

Name .....

**Study #1**

**GIVE ME AN UNDIVIDED HEART**

**Studies from the Letter of James**

**Key Verses**

*Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.  
I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart;  
I will glorify your name forever.      **Ps 86:11-12***

**PITFALLS WE CONFRONT AS WE LIVE THE  
CHRISTIAN LIFE.**

1. A DOUBLE MINDED OR DIVIDED HEART 1:8; 4:8.

- **FAILS TO UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE OF TRIALS**  
1:1-4

**James teaches us**

Trials makes us perfect or complete

**Paul's Testimony**

Has really served to advance the gospel. Phil 1:12,  
will turn out for my deliverance. Phil 1:19

**Peter's Insight**

that your faith — may be proved genuine 1 Peter 1:6-8

- **DOUBTS THE WISDOM AND PURPOSE OF GOD** 1:6-8  
Double mindedness lacks true faith See Rom 8:28-29
- **IS INFLUENCED BY SINFUL DESIRES AND THE  
WORLD** 4:1-8  
Double mindedness results in quarrels, coveting and even  
murder

- **PRESUMES TO PLAN WITHOUT GOD** 4:13-17  
Double mindedness considers we are masters of our own destiny.

## 2. OUR OWN SINFUL DESIRES

- **ARE THE TRUE SOURCE OF TEMPTATION** 1:13-15  
C/F 4:1-4  
Waging a war against our souls See 1 Peter 2:11-12  
Constant conflict with new nature Gal 5:16-24  
Relies on human wisdom James 3:13-16 1 Cor 2:6-14
- **RESULT IN MISUSING OF THE TONGUE** 1:26; 3:1-12  
4:11  
Destroying and damaging rather than building up  
Eph 4:29-30  
Judging others and usurping God's role 4:11-12
- **CAUSE ALL KINDS OF QUARRELS AND FIGHTS** 4:1-3  
Leaving God out of our lives  
Asking with wrong motives  
Driven by our own pleasures
- **URGE US TO BE FRIENDS WITH THE WORLD** 4:4-6  
To commit spiritual adultery  
To become an enemy of God  
The world is Satan's realm 2 Cor 4:3-4 Eph 2;1-3  
Results in Selfishness, Pride, Lust, Disobedience

## 3. FAITH WITHOUT ACTIONS 2:14-26

- **FAILS TO PUT INTO PRACTICE WHAT WE LEARN** 1:22-24  
Heb 5:11-14 results in immaturity  
2 Peter 1:9 results in barrenness and ineffectiveness
- **FAILS TO LOVE BY SHOWING FAVOURITISM** 2:1-13  
Breaks the royal law and sins against the poor brother
- **FAILS TO DO THE GOOD THINGS WE KNOW WE SHOULD DO** 2:14-17 4:17  
Failing to meet the obvious needs of our brothers and sisters  
Denies the claim of true love 1 John 3:16-18

This is the sin of omission

**Test Yourself.**

How have you come near to God? .....

.....

What gifts have you asked from Him? .....

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What do you need to do to "humble yourself".

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Are you aware of any "wax in your ears" and any "spiritual cancer" that is hindering your spiritual? life?.....

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Can you identify those to whom you can show compassion and mercy?

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What can you do for them?.....

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List the promises God has given you in Jesus so that you can know Him better and live to please Him.

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.....

.....

Name .....

**Study #2**

**GIVE ME AN UNDIVIDED HEART**

**Studies from the Letter of James**

**PROMISES TO DEPEND ON FOR VICTORY IN OUR CHRISTIAN LIVES**

**The Promise**

*"Come near to God and He will come near to you"*

**James 4:8**

**Key Verses**

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, **so that you may know him better.***  
**Eph 1:18**

*His divine power has given us **everything we need** for life and godliness through **our knowledge of him** who called us by his own glory and goodness.*

***Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises,** so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

**2 Peter 1:3-4**

***"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ."***  
**2 Cor 1:20**

**KNOWING GOD BETTER THROUGH KNOWING JESUS MEANS RECEIVING HIS GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES**

**1. GOD WHO GIVES GOOD AND PERFECT GIFTS James 1:13**

Compare Rom 8:31-35

**a. "wisdom to those who ask" ... James 1:5-6**

wisdom that is pure and peace loving producing a good harvest 3:17

b **“gives us birth through the word of truth”**

**James** 1:18 so we will be “first fruits” or dedicated to God  
Ex 22:29, 34:19

c. **“gives grace to the humble”** **James** 4:6 1 Pet 5:5

Grace sufficient in our weakness 2 Cor 12:8-9

Grace to serve Him Rom 12:3-8

## 2. GOD WHO NEVER CHANGES **James** 1:17

“I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.” Malachi 3:6

*I will proclaim the name of the LORD.*

*Oh, praise the greatness of our God!*

*He is the Rock, his works are perfect,  
and all his ways are just.*

**A faithful God who does no wrong,  
upright and just is he.** Deut 32:2-3

## 3. GOD WHO DESIRES A RIGHTEOUS LIFE **James** 1:20

### To be righteous as God desires

- Be quick to
- listen, slow to speak and slow to be angry.
- Get rid of the moral filth ( wax in your spiritual ears)
- Get rid of the evil ( spiritual cancer) v21
- Humbly accept the word v21
- Do what it says v22

## 4. GOD WHO COMES NEAR TO THOSE WHO COME NEAR TO HIM **James** 4:8

To come near, God requires us to

- *wash your hands* = confess sins committed
- *purify your hearts* = reject sinful attitudes
- *you double-minded* = admit divided hearts
- *Grieve, mourn and wail* = repent
- *Humble yourselves* = surrender to Christ

## 5. GOD WHO IS THE LAWGIVER AND JUDGE **James** 4:12

He rewards those who endure testing 1:12

with a “crown of life”

with eternal glory 1 Peter 5:10

He is standing by the door 5:9

## 6. GOD WHO IS FULL OF COMPASSION AND MERCY. **James** 5:11

He cares for the orphans and widows 1:27

He chooses the poor to be rich in faith 2:5

He hears the cries of the poor the oppressed and  
exploited 5:4.

Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lam 3:23

### The Example of Abraham

**he who promised is faithful** Heb 10:23,

*By faith Abraham, .....was enabled to become a father because*

**he considered him faithful who had made the promise.**

Heb11;11

*Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.* Romans 4:20-21

**For no matter how many promises God has made, they are “Yes” in Christ.** 2 Cor 1:20



Name .....

Study #3

GIVE ME AN UNDIVIDED HEART

**Studies from the Letter of James**

Key Verses

*What does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good? Deut 10:12-13*

PRIORITIES TO SET FOR YOUR CHRISTIAN LIFE.

**1. IN RELATION TO GOD**

James sums it up as he introduces himself

***“A bond servant of God and Our Lord, Jesus Christ”***

**1:1**

**a. “to be a kind of first fruits” 1:18 = dedicated to God**

See Exodus 22:29; 34:16,26,

Deut 26: 1-10 *What is in your basket?*

See Romans 12:1-2

**b. “to be a “friend of God” 2:23**

Come near to God 4:8

Submit yourselves to God in obedient faith 4:7

Humble yourself before the Lord 4:10

Enoch walked with God Gen 5:

Abraham 2 Chron 20:7 Isa 41:8

God spoke to Moses as a man speaks to a friend Ex 33:11



**Friend of God**



TRUE RELIGION



**Coming to God**

**MAKE THIS YOUR PRAYER OF COMMITMENT.**

*Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;*

*give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.*

*I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart;*

*I will glorify your name forever. Ps 86:11-12*

