

January 23-29, 2012
ROOTED **IN THE** WORD



James 1:1-12

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:

Greetings.

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

⁹ Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. ¹⁰ But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. ¹¹ 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.

¹² 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.

Rooted in the Word weekly readings for

January 23-29, 2012

Scripture: James 1:1-12

Begin each daily devotional reading with prayer. Ask that God would speak to you through the Holy Spirit and His Word. Consider memorizing verses 2-4.

January 23: Read the book of James. Try to imagine what the people James is addressing were experiencing in their Christian walk. Where do you see yourself in this New Testament book?

January 24: Read James 1:1-12. Read the passage slowly several times. What word or phrase draws your attention? Spend time reflecting on that word/phrase asking God to speak to you through it.

January 25: Read Romans 8:18-39. What does this passage tell us about the Christian life in the midst of suffering? What resources are available to us? What outcomes are promised?

January 26: Read II Corinthians 11:16-12:10. Note the various sufferings of Paul. What was his attitude toward them? Where does Paul say his “thorn in the flesh” came from? What resources were available to Paul in his sufferings?

January 27: Read Job 1:1-2:10. What is the role of Job, Satan, and God in the sufferings that Job experienced? How does Job being “blameless and upright” relate to suffering/not suffering? Why does God allow Job to suffer? How does this relate to our lives?

January 28: Read James 1:1-12. Focus on verses 2-4. If facing trials can produce perseverance and perseverance can produce maturity, how does this impact our approach to facing our trials?

January 29: Read James 1:1-12. Spend time in prayer thanking God for His Word, asking that He would continue to speak to you through the Spirit, this passage and the message on Sunday morning.