Grace Chapel Dr. John Niemelä

INTRODUCTION

May 2, 2007

REVIEW

Outline of James

Salutation 1:1 Prologue 1:2–18

Thematic Statement 1:19–20 Swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath

Body 1:21-5:6

Swift to hear 1:21–2:26 Slow to speak 3:1–18 Slow to wrath 4:1–5:6

Epilogue 5:7–20

(1:1) James greets Jewish Christians dispersed (by the Acts 8:1 persecution)

(1:2–8) Bels should joyfully accept trials, because **proven faith** produces patience, & **patience** produces endurance, & the purpose of **endurance** is to make bels mature, complete, & w/o deficiency, so bels lacking wisdom [for trials] should pray expectantly (not doubtfully) to God who gives wisdom, because a doubter is unstable & will not receive anything [wisdom *in particular*] from God, because he is double-minded & unstable

(1:9–11) Perspective on Poverty & Wealth in testing: Trials show God's interest in us: (1:9) Poor believers should glory in this exaltation

(1:10-11) Rich bels should glory in our humiliation (reminding us of our frailty)

(1:12-18) God and Trials

(1:12) God blesses approved believers who endure trial with the crown of life (in life) and with reward at the Bema Seat

(1:13–14) Bels should not say God tempts them, because He Himself is untemptable & does not Himself tempt anyone, but our own desires tempt us

(1:15) Lust is sin's mother; matured sin is death's mother (So God is father to life; not lust, sin, or death)

Illustration from James 5:19–20

Brethren_p, if anyone_s among you_p

and someones

let him, know that he, who

wanders from the truth,

turns him_s back,

turns a sinner_s from the error of his_s way

will deliver a life_s from death and cover a multitude of sins.

(1:16) Believers should not be deceived into blaming God for temptation

(1:17) [The reason believers should not be deceived into blaming God for temptation] is because our unchangeable God only gives good gifts.

(1:18) The greatest illustration of the good gifts that our unchangeable God gives is LIFE through the word of truth (regeneration).

