



**Dr. Edward O. Williamson, Pastor-teacher**  
**Bible Study and Discussion Group**  
**Topic: The Book of James – Authentic Faith**  
**Handout #3 – Chapter 1 – 2**  
**(Based upon the *Bible Teachers Commentary*)**

**James 1:2-3**

***2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.***

**Introduction**

- Brief review
  - Two biblical views of faith
    - Paul – saving faith, by faith we enter into a relationship with God through belief in Jesus Christ
    - James – practical faith, faith produces a lifestyle of obedience that emerges from an intimate relationship with God
    - The book of James is a guidebook for living our faith
  - Thoughts and questions about James
  - Key points to remember:
    - Context or setting
    - Purpose of the book
- I. The Personal Impact of Faith – James 1:2-18
- a. Our attitude toward trials vs. 2-4
  - b. Our expectation of God’s help vs. 5-8
  - c. Our awareness of our identity vs. 9-11

- d. Our acceptance of responsibility vs. 12-15
  - e. Our expectation from God vs. 16-18
- II. The Interpersonal Impact of Faith James 1:19-2:13
- a. Our responses to others vs. 19-21
  - b. Our standards of behavior vs. 22-25
  - c. Our view of religion vs. 26-27
  - d. Our welcome of others 2:1-7
  - e. Our calling of love vs. 8-13

Conclusion/Wrap-Up: