

Choose Your Position, Take Pride In Your Faith And Work

James 1:9-15

James wrote this general epistle in 45 A.D. Great persecution had broken out after Stephen had been stoned. The church was just getting started and the opposition felt they were victorious in their persecutions. Everybody ran away except the apostles.

There was no technology as we have to day so in order to disperse information and encouragement it was done by letter writing. James encourages the new believers to hang in there in spite of the opposition to the church. He tells them to take pride in their humble positions and the rich in their humiliation. Riches and wealth will fade away but it is their faith that will sustain them. They may be poor in riches but rich in faith.

Proverbs state that riches will take up wings and fly away but God wants your heart to be filled with wisdom. Wealth, gifts and talents come from God and it is he who gives us the wisdom to attain them. If you trust and depend on him he will keep you in perfect peace. He wants you to take pride in him, not in the money. Celebrate him.

Know that God does not tempt anyone. He wants us to have faith in him and use that faith to pass the tests of temptation. Do not be deceived because every good and perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father of the heavenly lights.

You must repent and turn to God. Don't chase after the things that will entrap you. God has the antidote and he is the antidote.

He knows what you need and it is him and faith in him. It is your faith in him that will keep you going.