

First Mount Zion Baptist Church
Wednesday Mid-Day and Evening Bible Study
November 20, 2024
James 4:1-17

Presenters: Rev. Cynthia Ball (Mid-day); Rev Cozy Bailey (7:30 PM)

Background: “Four men are named James in the New Testament, one of which is the Lord’s brother (See Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3; Gal 1:19). Tradition points to this prominent figure as the author of the epistle, and this best fits the evidence of Scripture. The brevity and limited doctrinal emphasis of the Book of James kept it from wide circulation, and by the time it became known in the church as a whole, there was uncertainty about the identity of the James mentioned in 1:1. Growing recognition that it was written by the Lord’s brother led to its acceptance as a canonical book.” ¹ James was not a follower of his brother Jesus during his earthly ministry, but it is believed that James became a follower of Jesus after his resurrection.

Theme: The book of James is not addressed to a specific church; but is a letter to numerous churches. The content of this epistle addresses issues of everyday life to include loving God despite trials, caution against personal favoritism, taming the tongue, heavenly wisdom, wealth, pride, humility, judging others and warning against boasting about one’s future.

1. Where do internal conflicts for wealth, status, come from? (James 4:1-2)

2. Why don’t we get everything we ask for? (James 4:3)

3. We live in the world, why can’t we be friends with the world? (James 4:4) What commandment references James 4:5?

¹ The Bible Study Bible, Nelson, Thomas, Nashville, Tennessee 2023 HarperCollins Christian Publishing

4. What does God give to the humble? (James 4:6) Why is it advantageous?

5. What happens when we submit to God? (James 4:7-10)

6. Describe the relationship between judgment and the law. (James 4:11)

7. How is life described in James 4:14? What is the meaning of that description?

8. Where should our focus be when we talk about our future? (James 4:15)
