

The Theme of the Letter of James from its Structure

God's exhorting Word for today on living daily lives by faith

Before the coming of the Lord which is near

THEME, PURPOSE, SUMMARY, and STRUCTURE of the LETTER OF JAMES.

THE THEME of the letter of James is Sola Fide is expressed in humility before God in daily lives keeping his Word showing good things and works in perseverance until He comes which is near.

The PURPOSE

God exhorts brethren to live by faith in ***being humble before God in daily lives***. The Letter of James furthers justification by Sola Fide from the basics (humility before God) and perseverance, trials to daily lives and works perfecting salvation by affirmation (e.g., Rom 10:9). It exhorts brethren to be patient even in adversaries since the coming of the Lord is near. So, love Him and keep His Word in daily lives thereby showing good things and works as He is coming on the clouds to gather His elects.

SUMMARY (following the five parallel pairs A-A', B-B', C-C', D-D', and E-E')

A-A': Dispersed brethren, live daily lives by faith with wisdom and help from above. Faith (or lack of) is expressed in daily lives even in various temptations and trials.

B-B': Faith means humility before God and brethren in daily lives with perseverance. It means draw near to God, admit His sovereignty, and resist the devil. Note the coming of the Lord is near.

C-C': In humility, persevere under trials, own pleasure and lust, and in not having friendship with the world.

D-D': In loving God in humility in daily lives, receive and follow His Word thereby showing good things and behaviours in daily lives. Otherwise, they are of earthly, natural, demonic wisdom.

E-E': Faith works with works of faith (*in daily lives*). Therefore, faith without works is useless and dead. A man is justified by works and not by faith alone.

STRUCTURE of the LETTER OF JAMES

The entire letter is a single structure divinely inspired at the time of Jesus.

(A) The entire Letter is a divinely inspired structure:

- (1) The Letter of James itself is a structure of 10 verse-groups (excluding the rhetoric Jas 1:1) in 5 pairs in the sequence A-B-C-D-E-E'-D'-C'-B'-A'.
- (2) The structure is grouped in 5 verse-pairs (A-A', B-B', C-C' etc.) by similar *prima facie key words and phrases in the Epistle* (See appendix 3 in the paper in (C) below and Note on p2).

The basics of faith (i.e., humility before God and perseverance) is introduced with the exhortation that the coming of the Lord is near in the same second parallel pair, B-B', of the structure.

Humility before God is elaborated to details in daily lives and works, step-by-step from perseverance, temptations, trials, and sufferings.

In addressing the dispersed status (Jas 1:1) of brethren having faith that saves, the Epistle induces the rhetoric of the Son of Man coming on the clouds to gather His elects which is near (Jas 5:8).

(B) Reading the theme of God's Word seems possible only by following the inspired structure

Referring to the figure on page 2, correspondences in parallel-pairs in the content section of the Letter are twisted (see the crossed arrows). Reading in the letter's sequence makes it disorderly.

Correspondence in parallel pairs gives better understanding and more precise application.

The key to Sola Fide (i.e., humility) and to the dispersion rhetoric in Jas 1:1 is put almost at the end of the Epistle, scrambled in another structure, and split between 2 chapters (4:6p-5:12).

(C) More information is available in the open paper David Kam, *Epistle of Straw - Structure of James, Voice of End Times*. (Idaho: Jason Kam, 2023) accessible on <https://www.EpistleOfStraw.co.UK>

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FIGURE

Correspondences in the divinely inspired pairing of similar verses in the Letter of James
Based on prima facie evidence of key words and phrases (Note)

Introductory section: Correspondence is normal in pair A-A' which defines the scope.

A	a	1:2-4	→	5:13	a'	A'
	b	1:5-6a		5:14-18	b'	
	c	1:6p-8		5:19-20	c'	

Content section: Correspondences are consistently twisted in all the other 4 pairs of verse-groups.

B	p	1:9	→	4:6a	p'	B'
	q	1:10-11		4:6p-17, 5:1-12	q'	
C	p	1:12	→	4:1-3	p'	C'
	q	1:13-15		4:4-5	q'	
D	p	1:16-27	→	3:1-12	p'	D'
	q	2:1-13		3:13-18	q'	
E	p	2:14-20	→	2:23-25	p'	E'
	q	2:21-22		2:26	q'	

Correspondence in the introductory scope-pair A-A' is in a straightforward manner.

Correspondence in the content section (i.e., B-B', C-C', D-D', and E-E') is not the same as in A-A'. In reading the Epistle without following the structure, not only that the flow is reversed as E', D', C', and B'. The Epistle is read in reverse in each of these groups (E', D', C', and B'), making the Epistle disorderly until today.

Notes:

- (1) Some correspondence may not be obvious at first glance. For example,

A c – A' c' (1:6p-8 – 5:19-20, see also the above figure in Introductory section A-A')

(one who doubts; not ... receive anything) – (any strays; turns him back ... saves his soul)

B' q' Unit 1 – B' q' Unit 1' (4:7 – 5:12, a structure embedded in the main structure)

(Submit to God) – (do not swear either by heaven or by Earth)

- (2) The key of Sola Fide is humility before God and perseverance. On the other hand, not being humble before God is an evil sin. **Therefore, humility is emphasised and elaborated in a miniature of the main parallel structure in the pair Bp-B'q'.** But it spans two chapters 4 and 5 making it a bit difficult to note. It has four (4) parallel pairs with a single verse 4:6p at the front with no cross correspondence like the main structure.
- (3) For correspondence of the entire structure, please refer to appendix 3 of the open paper in Part (C) in Section "Structure of the Letter of James" on page 1 of this Summary.