

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: Sola Fide is having relationship with God in humility before Him 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 salvation by Sola Fide to be humility before God and perseverance in trials in daily lives showing works perfecting salvation with the gospel of relationship. It exhorts brethren to be patient even in adversaries since the coming of the Lord is near. So, love and draw near Him, keep His Word in daily lives 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 having close relationship with God in humility and perseverance, resisting the devil in daily lives. 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.

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Key words and phrases in the Letter of James (NASB v95) as the first step to identify and the basis of the structure of five parallel pairs.

A - A' where A is a-b-c and A' a'-b'-c'.

Part a (1:2-1:4): all joy ... when you encounter various trials

Part a' (5:13): you suffering ... sing praises

Part b (1:5-1:6a): you lacks wisdom, ask in faith

Part b' (5:14-5:18): pray over him ... in faith, one who is sick / committed sins

Part c (1:6p-1:8): one who doubts, not to ... receive anything

Part c' (5:19-5:20): among you strays, turn him back ... save his soul / cover a multitude of sins

Correspondence is a-a', b-b', and c-c'.

B - B' where B is p-q and B' p'-q'.

Part p: 1:9 humble circumstances is to glory

Part q: 1:10-1:11 rich man is to glory in his humiliation

Part p': 4:6a God is opposed to the proud

Part q': 4:6p-5:12 Grace to the humble ... (1) not speak against one another ... (2) ought to say if the Lord wills ... (3) be patient

Correspondence is p-q, and q-p'.

C - C' where C is p-q and C' p'-q'.

Part p: 1:12 perseveres under trial, receive the crown of life

Part q: 1:13-1:15 his own lust ... brings forth death

Part p': 4:1-4:3 source of quarrels and conflicts ... your pleasure

Part q': 4:4-4:5 friendship with the world, hostility towards God.

Correspondence is p-q, and q-p' as in B - B'.

D - D' where D is p-q and D' p'-q'.

Part p: 1:16-1:27 (1) Every good things given and every perfect gift is from above ... slow to speak and slow to anger / putting aside all filthiness / doers of the word and not merely hearers, (2) not bridle his tongue ... religion in worthless (3) pure and undefiled religion ... visit orphans and widows / unstained by the world

Part q: 2:1-2:13 personnal favoritism

Part p': 3:1-3:12 the tongue

Part q': 3:13-3:18 (1) good behaviour ... of wisdom, (2) bitter jealousy and selfish ambition ... wisdom is earthly, natural, demonic, (3) wisdom from above is first pure

Correspondence is p-q, and q-p' as in B - B' and C -C'.

E - E' where E is p-q and E is p'-q'.

Part p: 2:14-2:20 faith without works is useless

Part q: 2:21-2:22 Abraham ... faith was working with his works

Part p': 2:23-2:25 Abraham ... justified by works not faith alone, Rahab the harlot justified by works

Part q': 2:26 faith without works is dead.

Correspondence is p-q, and q-p' as in B - B', C - C', and D - D'.

Equivalent of these key words are found in the original Greek text with prominent vocabulary, thematic, lexical, grammatical, and structural alignment according to Gemini of Google.