

The challenges of James:

- Martin Luther (1483-1546) called it “an Epistle of straw, and destitute of an evangelic character.”
- Has led some to a \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ soteriology (doctrine of salvation)

The authority of James (as Scripture):

- One of the earliest accepted writings
- 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Introduction to James (James 1:1)

1) Author

a. James

Which one? Most likely, Jesus’ half-brother & apostle

b. A servant of God

c. A servant of the Lord Jesus Christ

➤ Acts 15:1-21 is important to James’ epistle.

a. James’ apostolic \_\_\_\_\_

▪ Understanding the new covenant (Luke 22:20)

b. James’ concern for \_\_\_\_\_ obsolete

(Heb. 8:13) Jewish tradition under the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant

and the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant established by Christ’s sacrifice.

2) Recipients

a. Twelve tribes

b. In the dispersion(Acts 2:9-11)

3) Greetings

Unity and harmony in the church happens not just because we

\_\_\_\_\_ on every detail, but because we, in submission to

the Holy Spirit, \_\_\_\_\_ divisive doctrines (not each other).

The challenges of James:

- Martin Luther (1483-1546) called it “an Epistle of straw, and destitute of an evangelic character.”
- Has led some to a **works-based** soteriology (doctrine of salvation)

The authority of James (as Scripture):

- One of the earliest accepted writings
- 2 Tim. 3:16-17

Introduction to James (James 1:1)

4) Author

a. James

Which one? Most likely, Jesus’ half-brother & apostle

b. A servant of God

c. A servant of the Lord Jesus Christ

➤ Acts 15:1-21 is important to James’ epistle.

c. James’ apostolic **authority**

▪ Understanding the new covenant (Luke 22:20)

d. James’ concern for **reconciling** obsolete (Heb. 8:13) Jewish tradition under the **Old** Covenant and the **New** Covenant established by Christ’s sacrifice.

5) Recipients

a. Twelve tribes

b. In the dispersion(Acts 2:9-11)

6) Greetings

Unity and harmony in the church happens not just because we **agree** on every detail, but because we, in submission to the Holy Spirit, **wrestle with** divisive doctrines (not each other).