

SERMON OUTLINE

3745 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sunday Morning 11/30/08

“The Vision of James”

I. Topic to be Discussed

- A. Vision affects our outlook, what drives us, and our meaning.
- B. “Bringing the most important into focus, loving it, and living for it.”

II. Background of James, the Lord’s Brother (Author of “James”)

- A. **Matthew 13:55; John 7:1-5; 1 Corinth 15:7; Acts 1:14; Acts 12:17; 15:13; 1 Corinth 9:3-7**
- B. The Book of James: Shows James’ vision

III. James Teaches Us About Vision

- A. Brings the Most Important Into Focus
 - 1. **James 3:13-18** - Comparing wisdoms: Demonic vs. Heavenly
 - 2. Examine how life works
- B. Shows Us How to Be Passionate About the Important Things
 - 1. What do you want from life?
 - a. **James 1:5-6** - wisdom from God?
 - b. **James 1:17** - every good and perfect gift?
 - c. **James 1:21** - soul saved?
 - d. **James 1:25** - blessed life?
 - e. **James 4:1** - a peaceful life?
 - 2. We’ve got to make a choice: **James 1:7-8; 14,17; 4:4-5**
 - 3. How do we make the choice? Make it stick? **James 1:19-21**
 - a. Quick to hear, slow to speak: The art of listening
 - b. Slow to anger: Accepting the direction
 - c. Putting aside wickedness
 - d. Developing humility (strength under control)
 - e. Receive the implanted word - stop fighting it
 - f. See the end result - salvation
- C. Encourages a Changed Life - Live It
 - 1. Focus on ACTION: **James 1:22,27; 2:12; 3:9-10; 5:19-20**
 - 2. How do we become more active? **James 4:7-10**
 - a. Submit to God (rank under)
 - b. Resist the devil - a conscious choice
 - c. Draw near to God - desire relationship
 - d. Cleanse hands and heart - renew through Christ
 - e. Know who we are - weep
 - f. Humble ourselves - let God exalt us.