

Hopeful Evangelism

James 5: 19-20

- The Conclusion of the Letter of James - the main theme of the book is to confront those in the churches who possess a dead faith. To Evangelize the lost within the church
- There is a break in the grammar, so these last two verses are not connected to the previous thoughts, but stand alone as a conclusion to the entire letter, which can be called a "Hopeful Evangelism"
- James has been following the teaching of his older brother, Jesus, who stated the same concerns in Matthew and Luke - Matthew 7:15-23 (Psalm 6:8)
- James has already stated that we need to be doers of the word not merely hearers of it - James 1:21-25 the word implanted which is able to save your souls - Isaiah 29:13-14

A Review of Some of the Tests of Christian Faith -

Our Response or Attitude Towards

1. James 1 - Trials and Temptations, God's Word, Holy Living
 2. James 2 - Partiality in Social Status, Works
 3. James 3 - Proper Speaking, Wisdom, Friendship with the World
 4. James 4 - Humility, Submission to the Will of God
 5. James 5 - Proper Stewardship, Integrity
- James has made the appeal already to all to repent - James 4:7-10
- I. Evangelism in The Church
- A. "My Brethren" - A reference to Jewish Brothers as well as Christian
 - B. "If any among you" - verses 13, 14 - a group in the church who need to be called to repentance and salvation - Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43
 - C. "Strays" - Not just a wandering away like sheep are prone to do as in Isaiah 53:6 but those who apostatize - Isaiah 9:16 - 1 Peter 2:25 return to the Shepherd and Guardian
 - D. "Truth" - The Word of God - James 1:21 the implanted word which saves your souls
 1. John was concerned in like fashion with those who professed faith in Christ but did not hold to the truth of Christ - 1 John 4:1-6 - Biblical Counseling
 - E. "The error of his way" - Wrong Theology leads to a wrong lifestyle - Luke 6:46-49
 - F. The term "sinner" used by James refers to one who practices sin - Genesis 13:13
Psalm 1 - Lifestyle is evidence of faith in the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ
 - G. The saved are those who recognize they are sinners and turn from it knowing the truth that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us - Romans 5:8 - Loved us at the cross
 - H. The sinner practices sin - 1 John 3:8-9 and the sinner does not remain 1 John 2:19
 - I. The Evangelist in all of those who believe in Christ see the magnitude of salvation and the death of hell which should motivate us to be Ambassadors for Christ
 - J. The eternal state of the souls of men are at stake - Genesis 2:7 - Psuche - Psychology
 - K. Sin brings forth death - James 1:15 - Romans 6:23
 - L. "Saved from a multitude of sins" - Isaiah 59:9-21 (v.12)

Conclusion - We are to be Ambassadors of Christ 2- Corinthians 5:17-21