

GOOD MORNING!

Matthew 9

Rightly Dividing and Tough Passages:

James 2; Rom. 10 and Mat. 6

Pt. 2

GOD'S OVERALL PLAN REVEALED IN THE BIBLE TO RESTORE HIS GLORY THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE

God's Purpose	To Re-Establish His Glory on Earth	Re-Establish His Glory in the Heavens
God's Program	Prophetic Program--Spoken about since the world began (Lk. 1:70; Acts 3:21)	Mystery Program--Kept secret since the world began (Rom. 16:25; Eph. 3)
God's People	Nation of Israel	Body of Christ
Revealed in:	Non-Pauline Scriptures--OT, Gospels, Acts, Heb.-Rev.	Pauline Scriptures--Romans - Philemon
Manifests:	The Righteousness of God in Saving His Friends and Destroying His Enemies. Salvation = National Physical Deliverance from National Enemies	The Righteousness of God in Saving His Enemies Because He Has No Friends. Salvation = Personal Spiritual Deliverance from Sin and Death unto Eternal Life.
Blessings are:	Based on Friendship—Justified by Faith plus works. Covenants	Based on Enemy Status—Justified by Grace through Faith WITHOUT WORKS. Riches of Grace
Forgiveness of Sins:	Israel's National Forgiveness of Sins, which calls for repentance and confession.	Personal Forgiveness of sins based solely on faith and grace.

JAMES

- 1. God begins James by identifying who He is speaking to in this letter: The 12 tribes of the Nation of Israel scattered among the Gentiles. (James 1:1)**
- 2. God ends James by identifying who He is speaking to in this letter: The 12 tribes of the Nation of Israel scattered among the Gentiles. (James 5:7-20)**
- 3. This means we will be working from the LEFT side of our toolbox.**
- 4. Therefore, if we see a reference to salvation, our starting point understanding is NOT that it refers to personal salvation unto eternal life but to participation in Israel's NATIONAL salvation as friends. (J. 1:19-21; 5:15, 19-20; 2:14)**
 - The only thing that will change this understanding is if the context demands it, which in this case it does not.**

JAMES 2

5. Therefore if we see a reference to the *Righteousness of God*, our starting point understanding is NOT that it refers to the Righteousness of God in saving His enemies because He has no friends but to the Righteousness of God being manifested in saving His FRIENDS by destroying His enemies, (J. 4:4-5; 2:23-24)

--The only thing that will change this understanding is if the context demands it, which in this case it does not.

6. Therefore if we see a reference to being *justified*, our starting point understanding is NOT that it refers to being justified as enemies of God unto eternal life but to being justified as friends before God in the life of the Kingdom. (J. 4:4-5; 2:23-24)

--The only thing that will change this understanding is if the context demands it, which in this case it does not.

JAMES 2

- 7. Summary: the Book of James is addressing the Nation of Israel, as represented by the believing remnant, who would be right (justified) before Christ when He returns by operating on a friendship principle—FAITH PLUS WORKS--with the brethren during this Time of Trouble. If they do this, they will endure to the end and be delivered (saved) from their enemies, thereby participating in the display of the Righteousness of God in saving His friends and destroying His enemies as manifested through the Nation of Israel in the non-Pauline Scriptures.**
- 8. The believing remnant is made up of believing Israelites who had already been justified before God as ungodly sinners and enemies of God by FAITH WITHOUT WORKS—being saved from sin and death unto eternal life, thereby participating in the Righteousness of God in saving His enemies because He has no friends as manifested through the Body of Christ in the Scriptures of Paul.**

JAMES 2

- 9. The key verse in James is 1:26 along with 2:20 and 4:4-5. James is countering the false teaching of apostate Israel's vain religious system (VRS—Is. 1:12-13) that will be especially intense during the Tribulation Period.**

- 10. The meaning of trials: (1:2-12)**
 - a. VRS—they indicate God's displeasure with you—you should panic and return to them.**
 - b. James—they produce patience which leads to completeness. The only thing you need to return to is God through the prayer of faith.**
 - They must not compromise with the VRS resulting in wavering.**
 - Instead endure temptation (to the end—Mat. 10:22; 24:13) and receive the crown of life.**

JAMES 2

11. The source of temptations to sin under trials: (1:13-21)

- a. **VRS—It is ok to lust and sin after the things you lack under duress.**
- b. **James—they must not sin trying to get the things they lack. They should simply go to God—the holy and pure Father of Lights—who, having already begat them by His Word, will give them every perfect and good thing—i.e., go back the 1:4.**
 - They must not compromise with the VRS by showing anger and wrath against others (to get what you want)—it will only lead to sin and death (physical).**
 - They were to leave vengeance to the Lord who was about to return in judgment and wrath when He returns to manifest the Righteousness of God in delivering His friends by destroying His enemies.**

JAMES 2

12. The privilege of having the Law, God's Word to Israel: (1:21-27)

- a. VRS—Privilege of the Law comes by merely having, hearing, teaching it. (See Rom. 2:13-23)**
- b. James—the privilege of the Law comes by doing it:**
 - 1. Receiving the engrafted Word meekly is the way to be saved (souls--physical life) from these trials.**
 - 2. Because then you will be doers of the Word not just hearers.**
 - 3. And this will show that the Law is the Law of Liberty,**
 - They must not compromise with the VRS's wild and uncontrolled talk.**
 - They were to operate on the friendship principle with the friends of God, which made them their friends as well, by meeting the needs of those less fortunate rather than keeping them for themselves in accord with the world.**