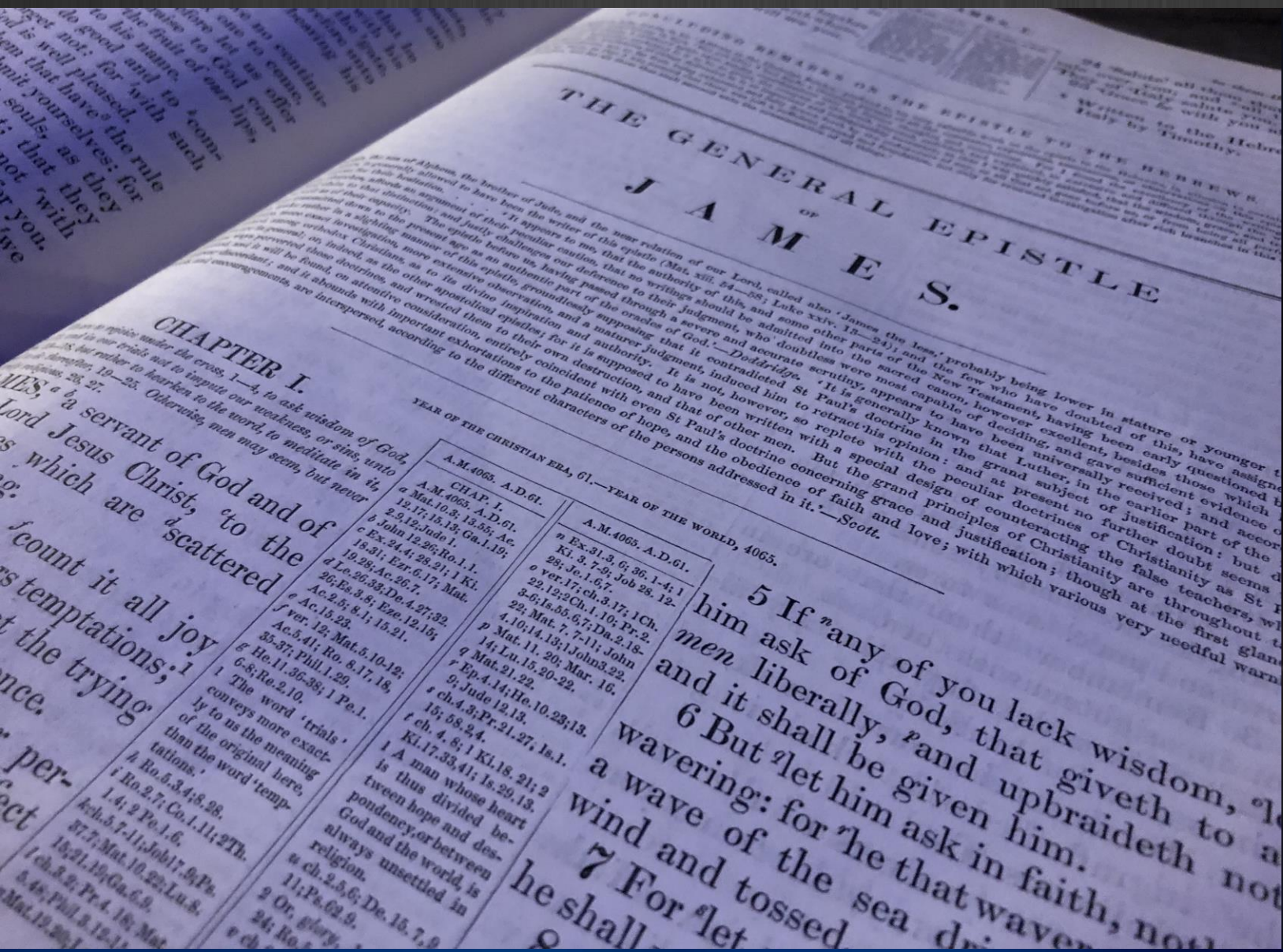


# The Epistle of James

A verse by verse study...



# Chapter 4



## THE GENERAL EPISTLE OF JAMES

### CHAPTER I.

YEAR OF THE CHRISTIAN ERA, 61.—YEAR OF THE WORLD, 4065.

A.M. 4062. A.D. 61.

A.M. 4065. A.D. 61.

...to his name, and to 'con-  
...the fruit of our lips,  
...do good and to 'con-  
...get not; for with such  
...that have 'the rule  
...selves, as they  
...not 'with  
...for you.  
...two

CHAP. I.  
A.M. 4062. A.D. 61.  
a Mat. 10. 3; 13. 55; Ac.  
12. 17; 15. 13; Ga. 1. 19;  
2. 9. 12; Jude 1.  
b John 12. 26; Ro. 1. 1.  
c Ex. 24. 4; 28. 21; 1 Ki.  
18. 31; Ezr. 6. 17; Mat.  
19. 28; Ac. 26. 7.  
d Le. 20. 33; De. 4. 27; 32.  
26; Es. 3. 8; Eze. 12. 15;  
Ac. 2. 5; 8. 1; 15. 21.  
e Ac. 15. 23.  
f ver. 12; Mat. 5. 10-12;  
Ac. 5. 41; Ro. 8. 17, 18;  
35-37; Phil. 1. 29.  
g He. 11. 36-38; 1 Pe. 1.  
6-8; Re. 2. 10.  
1 The word 'trials'  
conveys more exact-  
ly to us the meaning  
of the original here,  
than the word 'temp-  
tations.'  
h Ro. 5. 3, 4; 8. 28.  
i Ro. 2. 7; Co. 1. 11, 2Th.  
1. 4; 2 Pe. 1. 6.  
kch. 5. 7-11; Job 17. 9; Ps.  
37. 7; Mat. 10. 22; Lu. 8.  
10; 21. 19; Ga. 6. 9.  
l ch. 3. 2; Tr. 4. 18; Mat.  
5. 48; Phil. 4. 12, 13.  
m Mal. 12. 201.

5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and without rebuke, to them that ask in faith, without wavering: for he that wavereth is as a wave of the sea, driven and tossed of the wind. 6 But let him ask in faith, without wavering; for he that wavereth is as a wave of the sea, driven and tossed of the wind. 7 For let him that wavereth expect the day of wrath, when the Judge shall stand before the Lord.

*From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?*

James 4:1

- James has already said:
  - Think about how you act toward each other
  - Consider what you say to each other
  - Understand the direction of flow that causes you to judge with impure motives
  - Understand the source of the flow that comes out of your tongue
- Evidently this was leading to conflict

*I From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?*

James 4:1

- Either giving in to a lust or rejecting it will bring disappointment!
- So best to avoid it in the first place
  - i.e. don't put yourself in a place where 'desire conceives'

*“The first man is of the earth, earthly” 1 Cor 15:47*

*This is man’s glory, not his shame, because it is in a creature made of the earth that God is going to manifest His glory. We are apt to think that being made of the earth is our humiliation, but it is the very point that is made much of in God’s Word. In the Middle Ages it was taught that sin resided in the actual fleshly body, and that therefore the body was a clog and a hindrance. The Bible says that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, not a thing to be despised.*

*Sin is not in having a body and a nature that needs to be sanctified; sin is in refusing to sacrifice them at the call of God.*

**Oswald Chambers – The Psychology of Redemption**

<sup>2</sup> Ye lust, and have not: **ye kill**, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

James 4:2

- You are being driven by the flesh!
- Lit. “you commit murder”
- Murder is defined as *“taking the life of another”*
  - That is what we do to each other when we are driven by the world and the desire to have what it offers
- *“You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask”. NASB*
- God is the source of every good gift James 1:17

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Matthew 7:7-11

*3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.*

**James 4:3**

*4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*

**Psalm 37:4**

- Lit. God will place within you the right desires that will lead to blessing and peace

3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

James 4:3

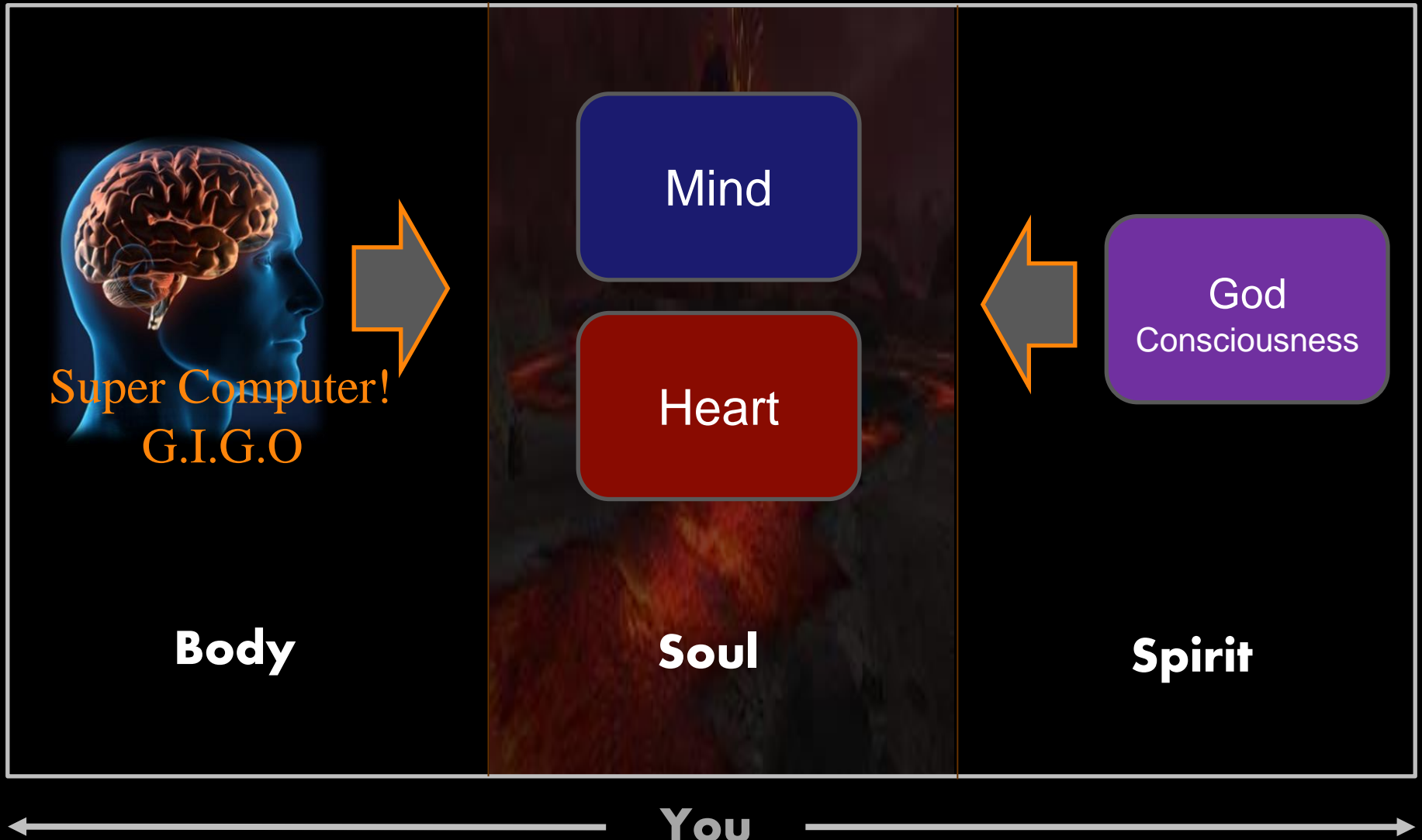
*Satan is never represented in the Bible as being guilty of doing wrong things, he is a wrong being.*

*Men are responsible for doing wrong things and they do wrong things because of the wrong disposition in them*

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# Biblical Psychology 101



4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 4:4

- Adultery (not fornication)
- Adultery is indulging in a relationship other than with the one you are espoused to
- ‘Friendship’: **Gr:** *Philia* - ‘Fondness’
  - From where we get ‘affiliation’
- ‘Enmity’: **Gr:** *echthra* – Hatred / Hostility

<sup>5</sup> Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

James 4:5

- *“Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose”*  
- NASB

<sup>19</sup> “God is not a man, that He should lie,  
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;  
Has He said, and will He not do it?  
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

Numbers 23:19

5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

James 4:5

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.

1 Corinthians 3:16

**6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

James 4:6

**6** For though the Lord is exalted,  
Yet He regards the lowly,  
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 138:6

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil,  
and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

- Gr *diabolos* (adjective not a noun)
  - prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely
  - A calumniator, false accuser, slanderer,
  - A metaphor: applied to a man who, by opposing the cause of God, may be said to act the part of the devil or to side with him
- “Resist the disposition within you that is opposed to God”
- Gr *pheugō* (verb) flee (26x), escape (3x), flee away (2x).
- Gr *hypotassō* (verb) to put under / to come under authority (willingly)

*8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.  
Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts,  
ye double minded.*

**James 4:8**



- **Double Minded:** Being confused through input into our lives from both the flesh & spirit - See Ch 1:7-8

9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

James 4:9



Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them.

But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

Colossians 3:5-10

9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

James 4:9

- *“For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace” – Romans 8:5*
- *“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live”. – Romans 8:11*

**10** Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

James 4:10

**II** Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

James 4:11

<sup>12</sup> There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

James 4:12

- *“Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand”. - Romans 14:4*

**13** Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

James 4:13

*In all probability Satan is as much upset as the Holy Ghost is when men fall into external sin, but for a different reason. When men go into external sin and upset their lives, Satan knows perfectly well that they will want another Ruler, Saviour and Deliverer; as long as Satan can keep them in peace and unity and harmony apart from God, he will do so (see Luke 11:21-22) remember that Satan's sin is dethroning God*

Oswald Chambers – The Psychology of Redemption

**14** Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.  
For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that  
appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

James 4:14

- “Take no thought for tomorrow...” Matt 6:25-34
- Solomon says our lives are but a vapour
- Moses said: *“So teach us to number our days,  
that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom”* – Ps 90:12

*Jesus summed up commonsense carefulness in the life of a disciple as unbelief..*

*“...do not worry about your life....” Don’t take the pressure of your provision upon yourself. It is not only wrong to worry, it is unbelief; worrying means we do not believe that God can look after the practical details of our lives, and it is never anything but those details that worry us. Have you ever noticed what Jesus said would choke the Word He puts in us? Is it the devil?*

*No — “the cares of this world” (Matthew 13:22). It is always our little worries. We say, “I will not trust when I cannot see”— and that is where unbelief begins. The only cure for unbelief is obedience to the Spirit.*

*The greatest word of Jesus to His disciples is abandon.*



<sup>15</sup> For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. <sup>16</sup> But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

James 4:15-16

**17** Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

James 4:17

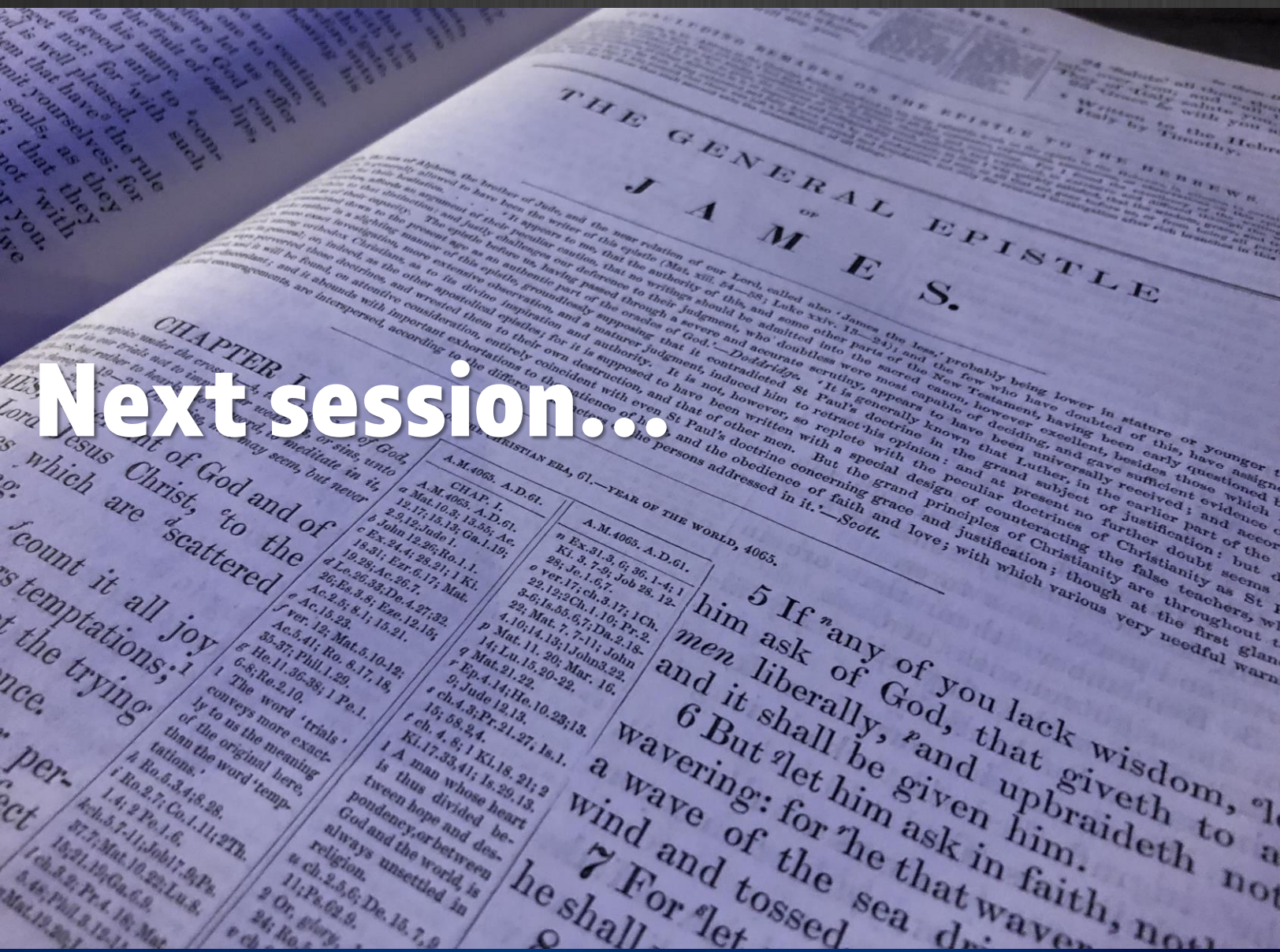
# The Epistle of James

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# Chapter 5

Next session...





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