

The Faith & Works of James

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Matthew 12:46-50, 13:53-58, 27:56, Mark 3:20-22, 6:1-6, Mark 15:40, 16:1,
Luke 1:26-38, 2:48-52, 23:27:31, 49, 24:10, John 2:12, 7:1-13, 19:25-27,
Acts 9:26-29, 12:17, 15:12-21, 21:17-20, Galatians 1:18-29, 2:6-10, I Corinthians 15:6-7, James, Jude

Introduction: Many Christians do not know that Jesus had a half-brother named James. In fact, the New Testament reveals that Jesus had four brothers. In **Mark 6:3** and **Matthew 13:55** they are identified as James, Joses (Joseph), Judas and Simon. There is a reference to the sisters of Jesus, but these are not named. In these Scriptures, they are not seen as stepbrothers and stepsisters, but they are truly half-brothers and half-sisters because Joseph is their father (**Luke 2:48-52**). What specifically do we know about James? How can we understand the significance of his life? Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. What Did James Think About Jesus?

- A. He thought Jesus was contentious (**Matthew 12:46-50**).
- B. He thought Jesus was confused (**Matthew 13:53-58, Mark 6:1-6**).
- C. He thought Jesus was complicated (**Matthew 27:56, Mark 15:40, 16:1, Luke 23:27:31, 49, 24:10, John 19:25-27**).
- D. He thought Jesus was crazy (**Mark 3:20-22**).
- E. He thought Jesus was a counterfeit (**Luke 1:26-38, 2:48-52, John 2:12, 7:1-13**).

II. What Did Jesus Think About James?

- A. His heart was tender (**I Corinthians 15:6-7, James 1:1, Jude 1**).
- B. His soul was lost (**John 7:5**).
- C. His mind was ready (**Matthew 13:53-58, Acts 1:14**).
- D. His strength was wavering (**Matthew 13:53-58, Mark 6:1-6, John 2:12, 7:1-13, Acts 9:26-29, Galatians 1:18-29, 2:6-10**).
- E. His ministry was successful (**Acts 11:1-18, 12:17, 15:12-21, 21:17-20**).

III. What Do You Think About James?

- A. He taught about priorities (**James 1**).
- B. He taught about faith and works (**James 2**).
- C. He taught about wisdom (**James 3**).
- D. He taught about humility (**James 4**).
- E. He taught about living right (**James 5**).

Conclusion: Isn't it great that we can have faith in God and that He allows us to be moved to do good works (**Matthew 5:16**). Praise God that people can change! Praise God that we can change! Do you have faith like James? Are you doing good works like James? Let's follow his wisdom.