

People: This sanctification is throughout, in the whole man; yet imperfect in this life, there abiding still some remnants of corruption in every part; whence ariseth a continual and irreconcilable war, the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.

Pastor: In which war, although the remaining corruption, for a time, may much prevail; yet, through the continual supply of strength from the sanctifying Spirit of Christ, the regenerate part doth overcome; and so, the saints grow in grace, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Our Presentation of Tithes and Offerings | Venmo: @Cornerstone-OPC

Offertory Prayer

***Hymn 355** | We Are God's People

God's Call Through Preaching

Scripture Reading | James 1:1

Pastor: This is the Word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Proclamation | Epistle of Straw or Epistle of Strength?

Prayer of Application

***New Songs 8** | Complete in Thee

GOD BLESSES US WITH HIMSELF

***God's Benediction**

***Hymn 735** | Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

**Please stand, if you are able*

VISITING WITH US?

WELCOME



We are so glad you have come to worship with us this evening! Please fill out a connect card in the church foyer or scan the QR code so we can learn how best to serve you.

NURSERY

We welcome and encourage children of all ages to participate in public worship. For families with young children there is a nursery available next door, though it is not staffed during the evening service. Please ask the usher for more information

CONNECT WITH US

www.cornerstone-opc.org

EPISTLE OF STRAW OR EPISTLE OF STRENGTH

James 1:1

I. Its *influential penmen* warrants our utmost attention and affection.

II. Its *inescapable predicament* warrants our utmost attention and affection.

III. Its *indispensable point* warrants our utmost attention and affection.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What did Luther think about the letter of James? Do you agree with him? Why, or why not?
2. Who is the James that wrote this letter? What do we learn about him from the rest of the New Testament (Mk. 6:3; Jn. 7:3-5; Acts 12:17, 15:13, 21:18; 1 Cor. 15:7; Gal. 1:19, 2:9, 12)?
3. Why does James address the church as exiled Israel? Is this language to be understood literally, figuratively, or both?
4. What trials and temptations was the church facing that James wrote to? How does the church today face similar struggles?
5. How does James describe himself in his greeting? Is “servant” the best word to translate the Greek?
6. How does slavery to God summarize the whole point of the book and provide the fundamental solution to every problem facing the first century church and us today?
7. How is belonging entirely to God actually true freedom?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How does James’ salutation serve as a fitting summary of his entire letter and beckon me to read it?
2. When it comes to my self-perception, do I consider myself “a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”? What does my life say?
3. What am I most looking forward to learning from James, and what am I hoping God will do in my life and church through this series?



Cornerstone Presbyterian Church is a community of believers devoted to glorifying our Triune God through God-centered theology, God-ordered worship, God-delighting piety, God-exalting leadership, and God-dependent mission.

LORD’S DAY WORSHIP

July 20, 2025 PM

Welcome, Announcements, & Corporate Prayer

GOD BECKONS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

*God’s Call to Worship | Psalm 100

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

People: Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Pastor: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

People: For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

*Hymn 1 | All People That on Earth Do Dwell

GOD BEAUTIFIES US FOR HIMSELF

God’s Call through Scripture | Romans 6:1-23

Confession of Faith | Westminster Confession 13.1-3

Pastor: They, who are once effectually called, and regenerated, having a new heart, and a new spirit created in them, are further sanctified, really and personally, through the virtue of Christ’s death and resurrection, by his Word and Spirit dwelling in them: the dominion of the whole body of sin is destroyed, and the several lusts thereof are more and more weakened and mortified; and they more and more quickened and strengthened in all saving graces, to the practice of true holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

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