APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL PREACHERS' PULPIT COMMENTARY ON THE EPISTLE OF

JAMES

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THE APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL PREACHERS PULPIT COMMENTARY—ON THE EPISTLE OF JAMES

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From an Apostolic Pentecostal perspective.

For each verse I give: the verse (KJV), a concise Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary, a brief Greek word-to-English study for the key word(s) in that verse, an Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutical note (how we read/apply the verse in our tradition), an Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic point (how the verse defends our convictions/practices), and a short “diamond/gold nugget” — a Apostlic Pentecostal Doctrinal Practical Pearl for Preaching and Teaching Pastoral use.

I keep each entry concise so the whole epistle can be used as a sermon/teaching aid. Use this as a framework to expand into full sermons or pulpit outlines. References to Greek use transliteration and literal glosses for the primary words in each verse.

Chapter 1

1:1 — James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: James identifies himself humbly as a servant God the Father that is the the Lord Jesus Christ — a balance of deity and lordship that frames the letter’s ethic.
• Greek word study: doulos (δοῦλος) = servant/slave; kuriou (κυρίου) = Lord; ho Iēsous Christos (ὁ Ἰησοῦς Χριστός) = Jesus the Anointed.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Read as a servant's exhortation — authority not by rank but by humility. We affirm Jesus' lordship as central.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Establishes early the New Testament pattern of lordship and submission — authority grounded in Christ, supporting our emphasis on submission to Jesus' headship and the need for obedience.
• Nugget: Authority in ministry is servant-hearted; leadership in the Apostolic Pentecostal movement models servanthood and holiness.

1:2 — My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Trials are to be counted as joy because they produce testing and growth. The spirit of endurance is crucial.
• Greek word study: peirasmois (πειρασμοῖς) = trials/tests/temptations; schēte (ἔχετε verbal idea) — "count/consider" (logizomai, λογίζομαι) = reckon.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Trials are providential and sanctifying; not arbitrary. We interpret as corrective training from God, fitting our emphasis on practical holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows Christianity is not escapist; the Apostolic life expects trial and perseverance — consistent with the Pentecostal testimony of suffering and Spirit-empowered endurance.
• Nugget: Joy is an attitude of faith during testing — a

visible mark of Spirit-filled believers.

1:3 — Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Testing produces patience (hupomonē) — endurance that results in character.
• Greek word study: dokimion (δοκίμιον) related: peirasmos tests; pistis (πίστις) = faith; hupomonē (ὑπομονή) = endurance/patience.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Growth is experiential — faith is refined by fire. Apostolic teaching emphasizes experiential sanctification produced by God's work in trials.
Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic :
Demonstrates a biblical process of sanctification (faith → testing → perseverance) that defends our experiential account of growth by the Spirit.
• Nugget: Preach trials as Spirit-ordained opportunities to grow into holiness.

1:4 — But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Perseverance must complete its work so believers may be spiritually mature and lacking nothing.
• Greek word study: teleios (τέλειος) = mature/complete; holoklēros (ὁλόκληρος) = whole/entire.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Maturity is holistic — ethical, doctrinal, and devotional. Our call includes fullness of Spirit and holocaustic devotion.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Maturity includes visible spiritual fruit and experience (not mere doctrine). This supports our focus on Spirit evidence (holiness, tongues, boldness).
• Nugget: Aim sermons to produce maturity — not just head knowledge but life transformation.

1:5 — If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: God gives wisdom generously to those who ask in faith; God's character is generous and kind.
• Greek word study: sophian (σοφίαν) = wisdom; didōsin (δίδωσιν) = gives; adagior (οὐ προσβάλλει?) — "does not reproach" (ou ekoluthē? Actually ouρ? — text: καὶ οὐ ὀνειδίζει) = does not reproach/criticize.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Prayer for practical wisdom is encouraged — wisdom for decisions and ministry, in line with Pentecostal reliance on prayer-led direction.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: We can defend Spirit-led guidance and decision-making as biblically rooted — asking God for wisdom is scriptural and expected.
• Nugget: Encourage praying for wisdom in ministry, evangelism, and pastoral care.

1:6 — But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Asking must be accompanied by unwavering faith — no double-mindedness.
• Greek word study: pisteuō (πιστεύω) = believe; dipsuchos? (δυσψυχος? Actually dipsuchos = double minded? — diplē gnomē? James uses dipsuchos? The phrase “double minded” later is dipsuchos) ; diaklinei (men?) = wavering.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Confidence in God’s promise is required. Consistent with Apostolic insistence on faith-filled prayer.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates the necessity of faith expectancy in prayer; defends the practice of faith-filled petitions in Apostolic prayer life.
• Nugget: Train congregations in faith-filled, expectant prayer.

1:7 — For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Doubt nullifies the promise; one who doubts should not expect an answer.
• Greek word study: logizomai (λογίζεται) = reckon/consider; lambanein (λαμβάνειν) = receive.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: The efficacy of prayer is tied to faith; pastoral teaching should include nurturing true faith.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows biblical basis for faith's role in prayer outcomes — counters passive, formulaic approaches.
• Nugget: Faith matters morally and spiritually — teach the congregation to walk in simple faith.

1:8 — A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Double-mindedness (dipsychos) produces instability of life and testimony.
• Greek word study: dipsuchos (δίψυχος or διψυχος) = two-souled/double-minded; astatēs (ἀσταθής) = unstable.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Calls for single-minded devotion to the Lord — a hallmark of Apostolic holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Underlines why divided loyalties undermine spiritual life — supports our call to separation and single-minded devotion.
• Nugget: Holiness demands unity of heart — no living half in the world and half in Christ.

1:9 — Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The poor in this world should glory in their high position in Christ; social status is reversed in the kingdom.
• Greek word study: tapeinos (ταπεινός) = lowly/poor; hupsoo (ὑψοῦ) give exalted? (hypsoō?); tapeinōsis vs hypsōsis.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: We honor the poor and the humble; Apostolic preaching affirms God's uplift of the lowly and warns the rich.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counter-cultural teaching supports the church's pastoral care for the marginalized and critiques worldly status.
• Nugget: Encourage humility and remind congregants their true worth is in Christ.

1:10 — But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Riches are temporary; earthly status passes away — a warning against pride.
• Greek word study: plousios (πλούσιος) = rich; prosphatē (prosphatos?) — ephemeral like chortos/cham? (anthos chortos: "flower of grass").
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Wealth is a test, not an identity. Apostolic holiness calls for detachment from materialism.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports teachings on separation from worldliness and the dangers of riches for spiritual life.
• Nugget: Preach stewardship, contentment, and eternal perspective.

1:11 — For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The fleeting nature

of life and riches; beauty fades.
• Greek word study: anatēlēs (ἀνατέλλης) = rising up (sun); exēreō (ξεραίνω?) = wither.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Ephemeral nature of fleshly glory highlights urgency of holiness and evangelism.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Emphasizes the eternal stakes; our message of repentance and baptism is urgent and necessary.
• Nugget: Urgency in outreach — people's fleeting life needs eternal remedy now.

1:12 — Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Endurance under testing brings blessing and the crown of life promised to those who love God.
• Greek word study: makarios (μακάριος) = blessed; stekō (στήκω) = stand/endure; stephanon zōēs (στέφανον ζωῆς) = crown of life.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Perseverance is rewarded with life — supports perseverance teaching in Apostolic circles.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends the call to holiness through endurance — not merely initial salvation but faithful continuation.
• Nugget: Encourage resolve to remain faithful under pressure.

1:13 — Let no man say when he is tempted, I am

tempted of God…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: God does not tempt us to sin; temptation arises from our own desires.
• Greek word study: peirazō (πειράζω) = to test/tempt; theos (θεός) = God; epithumia (ἐπιθυμία) = desire.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Reject any theology that blames God for sinful enticement; God's testing is sanctifying, not tempting to sin.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters misunderstandings about God's character; defends God's holiness and goodness.
• Nugget: Teach personal responsibility for sin and God's righteous character.

1:14 — But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Sin enters through internal desire that, left unchecked, produces action.
• Greek word study: ekplēssō? (drawn away) = helkō (ἑλκύω) = drawn; epithumia = desire; deceived/enticed = delеazō (δελεάζω).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize inner heart conversion and ongoing holiness; sanctification addresses desires, not only behavior.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports the Apostolic emphasis on heart change and progressive sanctification by Spirit and obedience.
• Nugget: Preach against rationalizing sin — expose the root motives.

1:15 — Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Progression: desire → sin → death. Spiritual consequences are real and final without repentance.
• Greek word study: sugkatalambanō? (conceived) = sugkatalambanō?; gignomai (γίγνομαι) = bring forth/be born; thanatos (θάνατος) = death.
Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Sin has a trajectory; repentance interrupts it. Apostolic praxis emphasizes immediate confession and restoration.
Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Affirms need for delivered life and holiness that Jesus provides by Spirit and obedience.
• Nugget: Preach the chain of sin and invite immediate confession and seeking of God's help.

1:16 — Do not err, my beloved brethren.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: A call to not be deceived — be wise and discerning.
• Greek word study: planō (πλανάω) = to be led astray/deceived; adelphoi (ἀδελφοί) = brothers.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Alertness to deception in doctrine and practice — test everything by Scripture and Spirit.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Encourages discernment against false teaching that contradicts apostolic doctrine.

• Nugget: Teach congregations to test experiences and teachings by Scripture and Apostolic truth.

1:17 — Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: All good comes from God; credit belongs to the Father. This reinforces gratitude and dependence.
• Greek word study: charis/khari? (dorean?) — dōrea (δώρημα) = gift; pater tōn phōtōn (πατέρα τῶν φωτῶν) = Father of lights.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Spiritual gifts and blessings are God's provision — stewarded for His glory. We distinguish gifts of God from demonic counterfeit.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends the legitimacy of spiritual gifts by rooting them in the Father's benevolence.
• Nugget: Teach gratitude and stewardship of gifts (including Spirit baptism and gifts).

1:18 — Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Salvation is God's will and work; believers are born again by God's word and are His firstfruits.
• Greek word study: gennēnai (γεννήσαι) = beget/born again; logos (λόγος) = word; aparchē (ἀπαρχή) = firstfruits.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Reinforces

regeneration by God's initiative — we preach repentance, baptism, and Spirit as the new birth.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Grounds Apostolic Pentecostal emphasis on new birth of Water and Spirit language and the objective work of God in conversion according to Acts 2.38
• Nugget: Preach the new birth as both sovereign and responsive (repentance / water baptism / Spirit).

1:19 — Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Practical Christian conduct: listen more, speak less, control anger.
• Greek word study: prōtos akouō = swift to hear; bradeus lalein = slow to speak; bradeus to orgēn (ὀργής) = slow to anger.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Practical holiness in speech and temper. Apostolic fellowship emphasizes controlled speech to maintain unity and holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows Christianity's transformative ethic that produces social and communal coherence.
• Nugget: Discipline tongue and temper; training in self-control is pastoral priority.

1:20 — For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Human anger cannot produce God's righteousness — Godly results

come from God's Spirit, not human fury.
• Greek word study: ergazomai (ἐργάζεται) = works; dikaiosynē (δικαιοσύνη) = righteousness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Avoid justifying sin through righteous anger; channel concerns into prayer and gospel action.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters violent or coercive approaches to "righteous" ends; advocates Spirit-led righteousness.
• Nugget: Pastoral methods must be peaceful and Spirit-led, not human wrath.

1:21 — Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Put away moral filth and welcome the implanted word humbly; the Word saves and sustains.
• Greek word study: ekballō (ἐκβάλλω) = put away; hēmerotēta? (meekness) = praotēs (πραότης) = meekness; engrafted = emphutos (ἐμφυτος) or emphuton rhēma?
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasizes internal acceptance of the Word that bears fruit — integration of doctrine and life in Apostolic sanctification.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Links conversion to moral transformation — counters false conversions without life-change.
• Nugget: Call for immediate repentance and receptivity to the Word as implanted and fruitful.

1:22 — But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Faith must be active — hearing alone is insufficient; obedience proves authenticity.
• Greek word study: praxē (πρᾶξις) = doing/acting; akroātēs (ἀκροατής) = hearers; kataischyneō (καταισχύνω?) = deceive.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Apostolic emphasis on works as fruit of faith — works confirm the reality of faith (though not saving apart from Christ).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends a faith that produces evidence; counters antinomianism and cheap grace critiques.
• Nugget: Preach practical steps for obedience, not only doctrines.

1:23 — For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Hearing without doing leads to self-deception — one sees truth but doesn't change.
• Greek word study: katoptrizomai (κατοπτρίζομαι) = look (in a mirror); prosōpon (πρόσωπον) = face.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Self-reflection must lead to correction. We urge sacramental and communal practices that produce change (baptism, prayer,

accountability).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports practical discipleship models that lead to transformed lives.
• Nugget: Use small groups and accountability for applied obedience.

1:24 — For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The forgetful hearer moves on unchanged. Memory without obedience equals spiritual amnesia.
• Greek word study: memnēskomai (μεμνήσκομαι) = remember; aleiphō? (goeth his way) = poreuomai (πορεύομαι).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize continual application; apostolic converts must be discipled to remember covenant commitments.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates need for means of grace and nurture to retain spiritual growth.
• Nugget: Repetition, liturgy, and discipleship to prevent backsliding.

1:25 — But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The “law of liberty” (nomos tēs eleutherias) — God’s Word frees and leads to life when obeyed.
• Greek word study: nomos tē eleutherias (νόμος τῆς

ἐλευθερίας) = law of liberty; teleios (τέλειος) = perfect/complete.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Scripture as liberating, not legalistic; obedience brings liberty. We reconcile law/grace by calling to holy living empowered by the Spirit.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Affirms that biblical commands lead to spiritual freedom, countering stereotypes that law equals bondage.
• Nugget: Teach that obedience in Jesus' name frees from sin's dominion.

1:26 — If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: True religion controls the tongue; religious appearance without self-control is hollow.
• Greek word study: threskeia (θρησκεία) = religion; periergazomai? (bridle = cheiromazo?) = katachei? Actually "bridleth his tongue" = koudoun? (fulassō glōssan?) = batē? Greek: bridling = cheirai? But key: glōssa (γλῶσσα) = tongue.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Holiness includes speech; Apostolic Pentecostal Preaching stresses purity in speech as evidence of heart change.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters nominal religion by pointing to ethical fruit — living speech reflects reality of conversion.
• Nugget: Practical tongue-control training for

discipleship.

1:27 — Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Religion pleasing to God shows itself in compassionate action and moral purity.
• Greek word study: kathara (καθαρά) = pure; anupokritos (ἀνυπόκριτος) = undefiled; episkeptomai (ἐπισκέπτομαι) = visit/look after.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Social justice and personal holiness are paired. Apostolic Pentecostal Churches must care for the needy and pursue holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates the gospel's social and moral demands; we defend our social care and strict moral code as biblical.
• Nugget: Encourage tangible care ministries and personal holiness programs.

Chapter 2

2:1 — My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Do not show partiality by class or outward distinction; faith in Jesus demands impartial love.
• Greek word study: prosōpolēmpsia (προσωπολημψία) = respect of persons/partiality.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Reject favoritism; Apostolic fellowship must practice equality, especially in the assembly and sacraments.
Apostolic PentecostalApologetic: Counters worldly divisions; supports our practice of inclusive gospel within holiness standards.
• Nugget: Preach impartiality in ministry and welcome.

2:2 — For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Scenario illustrating practical favoritism; warning against valuing externals over spiritual condition.
• Greek word study: synagōgē (συναγωγή) = assembly; strophē? (chōra?) — key term: peribole? Not needed.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Hospitality and reception must reflect gospel priorities, not wealth or class.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates Christian equality and critique of social show — defends a gospel that opposes social elitism.
• Nugget: Train ushers and leaders to practice impartial greeting.

2:3 — And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Partiality judged as sin. True love does not judge by outward apparel.

• Greek word study: endyeisthai (ἔνδυσις) = wearing; kosmos? (κόσμος) = adorning.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Holiness in appearance matters, but not to create caste — rather to express a lifestyle of distinctiveness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Balances modesty teaching with love; we critique flashy adornment when it creates division.
• Nugget: Teach modesty and humility, avoid using dress as a means of exclusion.

2:4 — Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Partiality reveals sinful judgment and arrogance.
• Greek word study: psēgō (ψέγω) = to find fault/blame; dialogismos (διαλογισμός) = evil thoughts.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Counsel against internal judgmentalism; call to confession and repentance.
• Apostolic Pentecostal
Apologetic: Shows necessity of humility in doctrine and practice; defends church discipline done with grace.
• Nugget: Integrate teaching on heart motives, not only external behavior.

2:5 — Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: God often chooses

the lowly — their faith is the true measure of wealth.
• Greek word study: eklectos (ἐκλεκτός) = chosen; ptochos (πτωχός) = poor.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Elevate spiritual status over social status. Apostolic movement's roots among the humble align with this.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends the movement's outreach to the poor and marginalized as biblical.
• Nugget: Bless and invest in those with humble faith.

2:6 — But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Rebuke to those who honor the rich and neglect the poor; prophetic critique of injustice.
• Greek word study: kataphronéō (καταφρονέω) = despise; katadyo (καταδικάζω?) = oppress/judge.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Church must be an agent of justice; Apostolic praxis includes fair treatment and protection of the vulnerable.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows Jesus' concern for justice and vindicates a gospel that protects the poor.
• Nugget: Promote church policies that protect the marginalized.

2:7 — Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Partiality dishonors the name of Christ; inconsistent behavior undermines witness.
• Greek word study: blasphemeō (βλασφημέω) = blaspheme/insult.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Holiness and consistent witness are essential for the church's name-bearing.
• Apologetic: Maintains that doctrine unpaired with life discredits Christ — we insist on life that matches confession.
• Nugget: Exhort that our behavior must match the Name we bear.

2:8 — If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Summarizes the law — love your neighbor — as the core obligation. Royal law = kingly law of Christ.
• Greek word study: basilikos nomos (βασιλικὸς νόμος) = royal law; agapaō (ἀγαπάω) = love.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Love is the measuring rule for law-keeping — law works when grounded in love, per Apostolic ethic of holiness motivated by love.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends obedience to moral law as an expression of love, not legalism.
• Nugget: Center teaching on love as motive for obedience and holiness.

2:9 — But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Partiality equals law-breaking; sin is relational as well as personal.
• Greek word study: parakoloutheō? (not needed). parabasian (παραβασις) = transgression.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Moral failure damages testimony; apostolic communities must practice fairness to maintain holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters claims that Christians can accept social injustice; we must practice fairness as gospel duty.
• Nugget: Discipline leaders to guard against favoritism.

2:10 — For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Law is a holistic covenant — one breach reveals the need for grace and repentance.
• Greek word study: nomos (νόμος) = law; hamartēma (ἁμάρτημα) = sin/offense.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: We cannot divide law into optional parts; comprehensive obedience is required though only Christ fulfills it perfectly.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows human inability and need for Christ's atonement and sanctifying Spirit — justifies both holiness and reliance on grace.
• Nugget: Maintain both the demand for holiness and the

need for Christ's grace.

2:11 — For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Law's unity: commands hang together. Our obedience must be comprehensive.
• Greek word study: apotassō? Not necessary. key words: moicheuō (μοιχεύω) = commit adultery; phoneuō (φονεύω) = kill.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach clear moral standards; Apostolic preaching upholds Biblical sexual morality and sanctity of life.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters cultural relativism; defends a consistent ethical vision rooted in Scripture.
• Nugget: Preach consistent morality grounded in love.

2:12 — So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Speech and conduct must align with the liberating law of Christ.
• Greek word study: laleō (λαλέω) = speak; poieō (ποιέω) = do.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Integrity between confession and conduct is essential; the Spirit empowers moral speech and action.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates the coherence of doctrine and practice; defends the need for

congruence in Christian living.
• Nugget: Insist on integrity — public confession matched by public holiness.

2:13 — For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy…

• Apostolic Pentecosral Commentary: Mercy triumphs over judgment; mercilessness attracts judgment.
• Greek word study: eleēmosynē (ἐλεημοσύνη) = mercy/compassion; krima (κρίμα) = judgment.
Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Mercy is a Christian mark; Apostolic practice includes both justice and mercy (healing, aid, forgiveness).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defense for compassionate ministry — God expects mercy as part of obedience.
• Nugget: Programs of mercy (relief, prayer for sick) are gospel demonstration.

2:14 — What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Faith without works is dead and useless; evidence matters.
• Greek word study: pistis (πίστις) = faith; ergon (ἔργον) = works; aporos (ἄπορος?) = profit?
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Faith is living, not merely intellectual assent. Apostolic emphasis on accompanying works (holiness, baptism, gifts) as fruit.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends a balanced

soteriology: faith is essential, but authentic faith produces works; counters “faith-only” caricatures.
• Nugget: Teach conversion evidences — new birth produces new life.

2:15-16 — If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food…what good is it?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Real faith responds to physical need; theoretical blessings without practical action are worthless.
• Greek word study: telos? (naked = gumnos γυμνός); ekleipō (ἐκλείπω) = lacking.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Practical charity is part of the Apostolic Pentecostal Witness — we practice feeding, clothing, prayer, healing.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Our ministries of compassion have biblical warrant; faith demonstrates itself in care for the needy.
• Nugget: Mobilize church to meet tangible needs as a demonstration of faith.

2:17 — Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Faith separated from works is lifeless.
• Greek word study: nekros (νεκρός) = dead; monos (μόνος) = alone.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Apostolic preaching shows living faith evidenced by holiness, baptism, Spirit

gifts, and service.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Validates the Apostolic Pentecostal claim that true faith is a dynamic, visible reality.
• Nugget: Use testimonies of transformed lives to teach the faith → works correlation.

2:18 — Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Faith and works are inseparable; works testify to faith.
• Greek word study: deiknymi (δεικνύω) = show/manifest.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: We maintain that outward acts (baptism, holiness, gifts) evidence inward faith.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports sacramental and experiential elements (Water Baptism in Jesus Name , Spirit Baptism with evidence of speaking in tongues is the sign and evidence) Apostolic Pentecostal authenticity Acts 2.38
• Nugget: Encourage public acts of obedience as demonstrations, not replacements, of faith.

2:19 — Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Mere intellectual assent to monotheism is insufficient; correct belief must be accompanied by obedient trust.
• Greek word study: pisteuō (πιστεύω) = believe; theos

heis (θεός εἷς) = one God.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Correct Doctrine is necessary but not sufficient — life must follow. Apostolic emphasis on both right faith and right practice (including belief in Jesus' full Lordship).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Differentiates the Apostolic claim: confession of one God must include confession of Jesus as Lord (not mere abstract monotheism).
• Nugget: Preach doctrine that leads to surrender, not mere assent.

2:20 — But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: John question: do you want to understand? Evidence proves faith's vitality.
• Greek word study: kenois (κενός) = empty/vain.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Apostolic Pentecostal teaching aims to move people from intellectual faith to vital obedience and Spirit life.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Provides a biblical rebuttal to claims that works nullify faith — rather they confirm it.
• Nugget: Use evangelistic call to both repent and demonstrate commitment in obedience.

2:21-24 — Abraham and Rahab examples: faith manifested by works, justified by works.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Examples of

justified faith: Abraham's offering Isaac and Rahab's protection of spies — works completed their faith.
• Greek word study: dikaioō (δικαιόω) = justify; pisteuō + ergon = faith + works.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Historical examples confirm that righteous faith always shows itself in action. We apply this Acts 2.38 , Repentance, Water in The Lord Jesus Christ for remssion of sins and Baptism in Holy Ghost and fire with evidence speaking in tongues
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Uses Scripture to show faith is demonstrated by action; defends practices that accompany conversion (water baptism in the Lord Jesus Christ and baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence with speaking in tongues , dedication).
• Nugget: Use Biblical examples in sermons to show faith's required response.

Chapter 3

3:1 — My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Warning to would-be teachers: greater responsibility and judgment for those teaching the flock.
• Greek word study: didaskaloi (διδάσκαλοι) = teachers/masters; krima (κρίμα) = judgment.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize carefulness in preaching and doctrine; Apostolic leaders must be accountable.
• Apostolic Pentecosal Apologetic: Justifies rigorous

training and accountability for ministers in Apostolic circles.
• Nugget: Train leaders in doctrine and pastoral care; stress humble service.

3:2 — For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, he is a perfect man…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The tongue reveals the heart; few are faultless in speech, so carefulness is crucial.
• Greek word study: lalia (λαλιά) = speech; telios (τέλειος) = perfect/mature.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Use teaching on tongue to cultivate sanctified speech; invest in prayer for deliverance from evil speech.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters lax talk in popular Christianity; shows scriptural basis for speech discipline.
• Nugget: Offer workshops on confession and control of tongue.

3:3-5 — Behold, we put bits in horses' mouths… Behold also the ships…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Small things (tongue) steer great affairs — the tongue's power over the whole life is disproportionate and dangerous.
• Greek word study: chalisma (χαλινάρι) = bridle; glōssa (γλῶσσα) = tongue; pyr (πῦρ) = fire.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Tongue needs strict

control because it damages testimony and community; call to sanctified speech and confession practices.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates biblical rationale for call to tame the tongue and maintain sanctified assemblies.
• Nugget: Use vivid metaphors to warn about careless words; provide pastoral steps for mending relationships.

3:6 — And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity…set on fire of hell.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The tongue can cause spiritual destruction; its evil source must be dealt with by grace and discipline.
• Greek word study: gé (κόσμος) = world (here: a “world” of iniquity); gehenna (γέεννα) = hell.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Strong warning to protect church purity; pastoral care must address slander quickly.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Uses strong imagery to underline moral seriousness; justifies swift corrective action against slander.
• Nugget: Teach confession, reconciliation, and restitution as remedies for tongue wounds.

3:7-8 — For every kind of beast and bird…but the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The tongue is uniquely untamable by natural means; only the Spirit can

grant true taming.
• Greek word study: damazō (δαμάζω) = tame; rhythm? (phaulos) = evil; toxikon (τοξιχον?) = poisonous.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize dependence on Spirit; sanctification includes transformation of speech by the Spirit's power.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports necessity of Spirit Baptism with the evidence of speaking tongues and ongoing sanctifying work for moral transformation.
• Nugget: Preach need for Spirit-filled living to change speech habits.

3:9 — Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Hypocrisy: blessing God and cursing people made in God's image are incompatible; must repent.
• Greek word study: eikōn (εἰκών) = image; eucharisteō? blessing = eulogeo (εὐλογέω); kataraomai (καταράομαι) = curse.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Sanctity of human life and dignity must be upheld; Apostolic Pentecostal ethics emphasize respect for persons even in discipline.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Grounds anti-abusive and pro-dignity ministry; our correction must not dehumanize.
• Nugget: Teach respect as a mark of a sanctified assembly.

3:10 — Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Unity of speech required — inconsistency is unacceptable for believers.
• Greek word study: ekporeuomai (ἐκπορεύομαι) = proceed/out of; ouk etc = ought not.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Sanctified speech is a hallmark of Spirit-filled people.
• Apostolic Penteostal Apologetic: The church's credibility depends on consistency between doctrine and speech.
• Nugget: Call for repentance and speech renewal.

3:11-12 — Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Nature shows incompatibility; you can't have mixed moral springs in the believer.
• Greek word study: phrear (φρέαρ) = well; gled? = sweet = gala? (glykys γλυκύ) = sweet; pikros (πικρός) = bitter.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Moral purity expected in the community; call to holiness and separation from corrupting influences.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Moral consistency validates the gospel message; defends a call for life-change, not mere ritual.
• Nugget: Encourage heart-level cleansing and accountability.

3:13 — Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge

among you?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: True wisdom is demonstrated by good works in meekness and humility, not merely boasting.
• Greek word study: sophos (σοφός) = wise; gnōsis (γνῶσις) = knowledge; prautēs (πραΰτης) = meekness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Wisdom yields moral fruit; Apostolic teaching connects wisdom to sanctified living and humility.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters prideful "knowledge without life"; defends experiential wisdom of Spirit-led ministry.
• Nugget: Model humble teaching and pastoral shepherding.

3:14-16 — But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Earthly wisdom produces jealousy, disorder, and evil. Such wisdom is demonic in origin.
• Greek word study: zēlos (ζῆλος) = envy; phthonos (φθόνος) = jealousy; anomia? = disorder.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Discern between heavenly and earthly wisdom — cultivate heavenly wisdom marked by peace.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Protects against divisive teachings; defends apostolic unity and purity of doctrine.
• Nugget: Teach signs of worldly wisdom and how to

repent from them.

3:17 — But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Heavenly wisdom's fruit: purity, peace, gentleness, mercy, and good fruits; fruitfulness of righteousness.
• Greek word study: ek ouranou sophia (σοφία ἄνωθεν) = wisdom from above; eirēnikos (ειρηνικός) = peaceable; epieikēs (ἐπιεικής) = gentle.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Cultivate godly wisdom by prayer and humility; Apostolic teaching emphasizes Spirit-produced virtues, evidence of baptism and sanctification.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Argues that Spirit-filled communities demonstrate these virtues and thus validate experiential claims.
• Nugget: Aim for visible fruit of heavenly wisdom in church life.

3:18 — And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Peacemakers sow righteousness fruit — ministry of reconciliation is productive.
• Greek word study: karpos (καρπός) = fruit; diallagma? (peace = eirēnē ειρήνη); eirēnopoios (ειρηνοποιός) = peacemaker.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Peacemaking is a

ministry priority. Apostolic pastors should be reconcilers and cultivators of unity.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Reconciliatory actions confirm the truth of the gospel — the church as the reconciled family evidences Christ.
• Nugget: Train peacemakers and reconciliation processes in the church.

Chapter 4

4:1 — From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Conflict stems from internal passions, not primarily external forces.
• Greek word study: eris (ἔρις) = quarrels; polemos (πόλεμος) = wars; epithumia (ἐπιθυμία) = lust/desire; stratologe? (members = sōma μέλη).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Diagnose conflict as heart issue; Apostolic pastoral care addresses inward desires through repentance and Spirit power.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Affirms inward transformation as the solution to social conflict; counters approaches that only regulate behavior.
• Nugget: Teach about inner warfare and dependence on Spirit for victory.

4:2 — Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Desires that are sinful produce frustration, leading to envy, strife, and sin.
• Greek word study: zēloō (ζηλόω) = to desire/jealousy; boulomai (βούλομαι) = to wish/desire.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Holiness includes putting to death sinful desires. Teach mortification and Spirit empowerment.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Grounds the necessity of the new birth and Spirit John 3.3-8 Acts 2.38 work to change desires.
• Nugget: Offer practical disciplines (fasting, prayer, accountability) to defeat strong desires.

4:3 — Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Unanswered prayers often reflect selfish motives. God answers prayers where His will and our motives align.
• Greek word study: aitiō (αἰτίᾳ?) = because; aischrologia? (ask amiss = ponerō?).
• Hermeneutic: Test
now finish chapter 4-5

Chapter 4

4:3 — Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Unanswered prayer often reveals wrong motives — requests meant to feed

sinful desires.
• Greek word study: aiteite (αἰτεῖτε) = you ask/request; lambanete (λαμβάνετε) = receive; hêdonai (ἡδοναί) = pleasures/lusts; hina (ἵνα) = that/so that (purpose).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach believers to examine motives before praying. Prayer must be sanctified; the Spirit aligns our desires with God's will.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends Pentecostal emphasis on praying in faith with holy motives; counters "name-it-and-claim-it" distortion by stressing surrendered motives.
• Nugget: Train the congregation in motive-check before petition — "Is this what God wants, or what I want?"

4:4 — 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.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Worldliness is spiritual adultery; loving the world sets one against God.
• Greek word study: philía tou kósmou (φιλία τοῦ κόσμου) = friendship/affection for the world; échthros (ἔχθρος) = enemy.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Call to separation and single-minded devotion. Apostolic Pentecostal holiness demands renouncing cultural conformity that opposes Christ.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Justifies separatist living and distinctiveness of Apostolic Pentecostal Practice — not withdrawal from mission but refusal to be

shaped by the world's values.
• Nugget: Preach on true devotion — either you are betrothed to Christ or seduced by the world.

4:5 — Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Scripture testifies to a jealous, seeking spirit within — God's Spirit desires our exclusive devotion (not sinful envy).
• Greek word study: pneuma (πνεῦμα) = spirit; zēloi (ζῆλος)/zēloō = zeal/jealousy; ekeinon (ἐκεῖνον) pointing to true scriptural claim.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Read as affirmation of God's jealous claim on His people and the Spirit's desire for holiness. The Spirit in believers calls for holy zeal, not sinful passions.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Bolsters Pentecostal stress on the Holy Spirit's role in producing zeal, conviction, and single-hearted devotion — the Spirit is not a passive force but actively seeks our faithfulness.
• Nugget: Preach the Holy Spirit's jealous, sanctifying work — cultivate godly zeal, not worldly envy.

4:6 — But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: God opposes pride and gives grace to the humble; humility is the prerequisite for receiving God's enabling.

• Greek word study: charin (χάριν) = grace/favour; huperephanos/proud (ὑπερηφανῶν) = proud; tapeinoi (ταπεινοί) = humble.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage dependence on divine grace rather than self-reliance. Apostolic spirituality prizes humility before God as the posture for revival and power.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends call to humility as biblical path to Spirit empowerment; counters prideful spirituality that seeks signs without humility.
• Nugget: Teach congregations to repent of pride and pursue humility as gateway to God's grace.

4:7 — Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Two linked commands — humble submission to God and active resistance against Satan (with the promise of victory).
• Greek word study: hupotassesthe (ὑποτάσσεσθε) = submit/subject; antipistēte (ἀντιστήτε) = resist/stand against; diabolos (διάβολος) = adversary/devil.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Practical: teach submission rituals and disciplines (prayer, confession, obedience) coupled with spiritual warfare practices. Spiritual victory is cooperative: we submit, God enables, the enemy flees.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports Apostolic Pentecostal practice of prayerful resistance (deliverance ministry, intercession) rooted in Scripture's call to resist the devil.

• Nugget: Preach the paired disciplines: humble submission and confident resistance — the devil retreats before a submitted, prayerful people.

4:8 — Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Intimacy with God is invitational and conditional on internal and external purity — both actions and affections.
• Greek word study: engizō (ἐγγίζω) = draw near; katharizō (καθαρίζω) = cleanse/purify; dīpsuchos/dipsychos (δίψυχος) = two-souled/double-minded.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize both outward repentance (acts) and inward consecration (heart). Apostolic Pentecostal Conversion involves life reorientation — public and private holiness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends sacramental and communal practices that foster nearness to God (water in baptism in Jesus Name for Remssion , prayer meetings, consecration services).
• Nugget: Offer an invitation to “draw near” with steps: confess, renounce, and publicly renew commitment.

4:9 — Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Godly sorrow leads to repentance; worldly laughter that resists conviction

must be exchanged for contrition.
• Greek word study: lypē (λύπη) = sorrow; penthos (πένθος) = mourning; chara (χαρά) = joy.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach the discipline of godly mourning over sin (corporate times of repentance). Apostolic practice values brokenness preceding renewal.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters cheap cheer that avoids repentance; grounds revival in humble contrition.
• Nugget: Plan corporate times for confession and mourning as preludes to fresh empowerment.

4:10 — Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Humility before God leads to exaltation by God — a divine reversal.
• Greek word study: tapeinoō (ταπεινόω) = to humble; epairēsei (ἐπαίρεσι) = lift up/raise.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach submission, lowliness of heart, and patient waiting on God for vindication. Apostolic leaders model humble service.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters worldly ambition; defends a theology of exaltation coming from God, not self-promotion.
• Nugget: Encourage smallness of self and big dependence on God — “God lifts those who lower themselves.”

4:11 — Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He

that speaketh evil of a brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Prohibits slander and judgmental speech; such speech attacks God's law and undermines community.
• Greek word study: blasphēmeite (βλασφημεῖτε) = speak evil/blaspheme; krinō (κρίνω) = judge; nomos (νόμος) = law.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Confront gossip and slander; teach restoration not condemnation — church discipline must avoid destructive speech.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports pastoral discipline and reconciliation practices while exposing the sinfulness of slander.
• Nugget: Implement clear policies on gossip, and train members in reconciliation speech.

4:12 — There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Ultimate judgment belongs to God alone; our role is mercy and discipleship, not final condemnation.
• Greek word study: nomothetēs (νομοθέτης) = lawgiver; kritēs (κριτής) = judge; dunamai (δύναμαι) = able/capable.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage humility in correction and reliance on God's justice. Apostolic praxis emphasizes restoration under God's authority.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Upholds Christ's role

as final judge and justifies cautious, grace-filled church discipline.
• Nugget: Teach that judgment belongs to God; pastors shepherd toward restoration, not vendetta.

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…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Warns against presumptuous plans made without acknowledging God's sovereignty and the brevity of life.
• Greek word study: legeite (λέγετε) = you say; kalendaria? not necessary — emphasis on planning language.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage planning with an attitude of dependence on God; integrate "Lord willing" into ordinary speech and decision-making.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters secular autonomy; defends the biblical practice of including God in plans (James 4:15).
• Nugget: Model "Lord-willing" planning in church leadership decisions.

4:14 — Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? it is even a vapour…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Human life is fragile and brief — a sober reminder that grounds humility and urgency in mission.

• Greek word study: emphanizō? (vapor = amychema? Actually καπνός/ἀτμίς idea) — key: paroxysmos? Use “as a vapor” (anosmos); ptyx? Keep simple.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Use this to preach urgency for repentance, evangelism, and faithful stewardship of time and gifts.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Grounds the Apostolic urgency for evangelism, baptisms, and immediate response to the gospel.
• Nugget: Urge immediate response to God — don’t postpone salvation or consecration.

4:15 — For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Proper planning acknowledges God’s will — “If the Lord wills” (kuriou thelēma).
• Greek word study: ei thelē ho kyrios (εἰ θέλει ὁ κύριος) = if the Lord will; live = zēsomen (ζήσομεν).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach dependence on providence and prayerful planning; make “Lord willing” an honest and humble part of speech.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Validates a worldview that keeps God central in daily decisions and long-range plans.
• Nugget: Encourage congregants to pray over plans and to include “Lord willing” as habitual humility.

4:16 — But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Boastful self-confidence apart from God is condemned; our joy must be grounded in God, not in prideful plans.
• Greek word study: kauchēsis (καύχησις) = boasting; kakos (κακός) = evil.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach humility in success and blessing; avoid self-exalting talk in the assembly and leadership.
• Apostolic Penrecostal Apologetic: Counters prosperity boasting and self-aggrandizing ministries; defends modest, God-centered celebration.
• Nugget: Foster a culture where victories are given to God, not to self.

4:17 — Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Knowledge creates responsibility; failure to act on known good is sinful omission.
• Greek word study: epignōskō (ἐπιγινώσκω) = know/ realize; hamartia (ἁμαρτία) = sin/ missing the mark.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Stress accountable obedience: knowing the will of God obligates doing it. Apostolic discipleship requires action.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Affirms that true faith results in deeds; it rebuts claims that knowledge alone suffices without obedience.
• Nugget: Add application steps in sermons — move people from knowing to doing (follow-up groups, calls to

obedience).

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5:1 — Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you.

• Apostolic Pemtecostal Commentary: A prophetic rebuke to unjust wealth — James warns of judgment on exploitative riches.
• Greek word study: plousioi (πλούσιοι) = rich men; penthete (πενθήσατε) = weep/mourn; aporia? miseries = adikia? (δυστυχία/ταλαιπωρία).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach stewardship, generosity, and warning against worldly accumulation that oppresses others. Apostolic ethic values giving and simple living.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Grounds the church's criticism of acquisitiveness and defends preferential care for the poor as biblical.
• Nugget: Preach on biblical stewardship and social responsibility, not simply prosperity.

5:2 — Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Earthly wealth decays; temporal gain is vulnerable and cannot save.
• Greek word study: diephtharēsan (διεφθάρησαν) = have rotted/decayed; rhēgas (ῥήγας)? moth-eaten = skōlōmatikē? — idea: perishable.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage storing treasure in heaven and investing in people, not possessions.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters materialistic gospel with Scripture's sober warnings about perishing riches.
• Nugget: Urge redistribution and usage of resources for kingdom purposes.

5:3 — Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Wealth hoarded unjustly will testify against its hoarders; greedy security is condemned.
• Greek word study: kernōmai? cankered = diaphthora (διάφθορα) or ôxy?; mastes? Not necessary — key: chrusos (χρυσός) = gold; arguros (ἀργύριον) = silver.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach that material riches are to be stewarded compassionately; hoarding is sinful.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports charity and economic ethics in the church — defending ministries of aid and fairness.
• Nugget: Challenge the comfortable to open wallets and hearts to the needy.

5:4 — Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Exploitation of workers invokes God's righteous judgment; their cry reaches the ears of the Lord.
• Greek word study: misthos (μισθός) = wages; apotrepō? kept back by fraud = kleptō? (ἁρπάζω/κρατέω). The cry = boē (βοή).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Call to justice in business and labor practices. Apostolic communities should protect and pay the vulnerable promptly.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends the church's activism on behalf of the oppressed and its prophetic voice against injustice.
• Nugget: Encourage fair pay policies and compassion ministries toward workers.

5:5 — Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Self-indulgent living under the guise of security is condemned.
• Greek word study: asōtia (ἀσωτία) = riotous living/wantonness; tēs kardia (τῆς καρδίας) = hearts.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Preach sober living, self-denial, and accountability; rejection of gluttonous comfort in contrast to the needy.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Contrasts kingdom modesty with worldly excess; defends ascetic elements in Apostolic holiness.
• Nugget: Encourage simple living that funds mission.

5:6 — Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

• Apostolic Pentexostal Commentary: Oppression led to persecution of righteous people — God sees such injustice and will vindicate the oppressed.
• Greek word study: katakrínō (κατακρίνω) = condemn; phoneuō (φονεύω) = kill; dikaios (δίκαιος) = righteous/just.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize pastoral care for victims of injustice and the church's prophetic call to stand with the oppressed.
• Aposolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Shows the biblical imperative to defend life and justice as an integral part of gospel witness.
• Nugget: Mobilize the church to advocate for the defenseless and stand for righteousness.

5:7 — Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Believers are to practice patient endurance as they await Christ's return — patience like a farmer waiting for crops.
• Greek word study: hupomonē (ὑπομονή) = patience/endurance; erchomenou (ἐρχομένου) = coming (of the Lord).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Foster long-suffering in suffering; Apostolic hope centers on Christ's return and should temper impatience with the

world.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Offers a hopeful eschatology that undergirds perseverance in holiness.
• Nugget: Preach waiting as active expectancy — endurance with prayer and faithful labor.

5:8 — Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Steadfastness of heart is required; the nearness of Christ's return motivates holy living.
• Greek word study: sterizō (στεριζω) = establish/steady; engizō (ἐγγίζει) = draw near.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Build congregational practices that strengthen hearts: Scripture, fellowship, and Spirit-filled worship.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters defeatism — hopeful steadfastness is a biblical imperative for Apostolic believers.
• Nugget: Provide spiritual rhythms (fasting, prayer, Scripture) to steady hearts.

5:9 — Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Do not harbor grudges; reconciliation is urgent because judgment is near.
• Greek word study: orgizesthe? (ἔχετε orgē?) = be

angry/grudge? kritēs (κριτής) = judge; proselthēnai (προσελθεῖν) = to come/stand at the door.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Prioritize reconciliation and church unity; discipline grudges with pastoral counsel and restored relationships.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Demonstrates the gospel's power to reconcile and prevents hypocrisy in judgment language.
• Nugget: Teach quick reconciliation — don't let grievances harden into sin.

5:10 — Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The prophets endured suffering yet remained faithful — they are models of endurance for believers.
• Greek word study: prophētai (προφῆται) = prophets; hupomone (ὑπομονή) = endurance/patience.
• Apostolic Pentecostal
Hermeneutic: Use Scriptural exemplars for teaching endurance; Apostolic preaching often draws from the prophets' perseverance.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Validates suffering as part of faithful witness and roots endurance in the biblical narrative.
• Nugget: Use prophetic biographies in sermons to encourage patient faithfulness.

5:11 — Behold, we count them happy which endure: ye

have heard of the patience of Job… and the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Endurance is commended and God is compassionate — suffering is not forgotten by God.
• Greek word study: makarios (μακάριος) = blessed/happy; eleēmōn (ἐλεήμων) = merciful/compassionate.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage perseverance with assurance of God's mercy and eventual vindication; balance justice and compassion.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Answers the question of God's goodness amid suffering — God is merciful and aware.
• Nugget: Reassure sufferers: God sees, and He is merciful; hold fast.

5:12 — But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, nor by any other oath…

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Avoid oaths; let your "Yes" be yes and "No" be no. Integrity in speech avoids the need for vows.
• Greek word study: epōnumiazesthe? (ὀμνύω = to swear/oath); nai (ναι) = yes; ou (οὐ) = no.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach plain honesty without oaths; Apostolic Pentecoatal ethics emphasize simple truthfulness as fruit of the Spirit.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Counters manipulative or sensational vow-making; supports

straightforward Christian integrity.
• Nugget: Model and teach simple, truthful speech in personal and pastoral contexts.

5:13 — Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Worship and prayer are appropriate responses to life's varied seasons — prayer in affliction, praise in joy.
• Greek word study: lypei (λυπείται) = afflicted/sorrowful; agalliaomai? (θρασος?) — psalms = psalmos (ψαλμός).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage corporate and private prayer and praise as normal Christian responses; Apostolic worship is both lament and praise.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports Pentecostal emphasis on exuberant worship and intercessory prayer as biblically rooted practices.
• Nugget: Lead services that allow both lament and jubilation — both are holy responses.

5:14 — Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Pastoral care for the sick includes elders' prayer and anointing; the assembly participates in seeking God's healing.
• Greek word study: kamnō? (σημεῖον) anointing = elaion (ἔλαιον) = oil; presbuteroi (πρεσβύτεροι) = elders; euchē

(εὐχή) = prayer.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Endorse elders' ministry of prayer and anointing; Apostolic practice includes seeking divine healing through prayer, anointing, and faith.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends charismatic healing practices and the role of elders in pastoral care, rooted in Scripture.
• Nugget: Establish clear pastoral protocols for visiting, anointing, and praying for the sick.

5:15 — And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Faith-filled prayer can bring physical healing and spiritual restoration; forgiveness and healing often accompany one another.
• Greek word study: proseuchē pisteōs (προσευχή πίστεως) = prayer of faith; sōzō (σῴζω) = save/raise; aphesis (ἄφεσις) = forgiveness.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Teach faith-filled intercession for healing; integrate repentance and forgiveness as part of restoration ministry.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Validates Apostolic healing ministries and the association of forgiveness and restoration with divine healing.
• Nugget: Encourage testimonies of healing and repentance to build faith and accountability in the church.

5:16 — Confess your faults one to another, and pray one

for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Mutual confession and intercession foster healing and spiritual health; fervent prayer is powerful.
• Greek word study: homologeite (ὁμολογεῖτε) = confess; enteuthen? (ἐνεργὴ?); energeia? (ἐνεργεία) effectual = energeia (ἐνέργεια); proskartereō? fervent/earnest = ektenēs? (ἔκτακτος?) Commonly translated “effective fervent prayer” (enteis monon?).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Promote small groups and accountable confession balanced with pastoral care; pray fervently for one another as a practiced discipline.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Defends group accountability and intercessory ministry as Scriptural means for spiritual and physical healing.
• Nugget: Create confidential confession groups and intercessory teams; teach persistent, effectual prayer.

5:17 — Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain…

• Apostolic Pentecostal
Commentary: Elijah’s fervent prayer is an example of powerful intercession; even great results are linked to earnest prayer.
• Greek word study: Elias (Ἠλίας) = Elijah; protasis? pásē sarkos? like passions = homoiōs pasin (ὁμοίως πάσῃ) = human passions; ektenēs (ἐκτενής) = earnest/fervent.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Use Elijah's example to teach the reality and power of prayer by faith, not by mere formula; prayer is operative and can move God in accordance with His will.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Supports the efficacy of intercessory prayer and the continuity of God's work through faithful servants.
• Nugget: Teach people how to pray earnestly and persistently — Elijah models sustained intercession.

5:18 — And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Persistent, faith-filled prayer led to restoration and blessing — God answers in His time.
• Greek word study: proseuchomai (προσεύχομαι) = pray; ouranos (οὐρανός) = heaven; opsis? rain = hyetos (ὕετος).
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Encourage perseverance in prayer; results may come after seasons of travail. Apostolic Pentecostal hope expects tangible answers.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Confirms the biblical pattern of prayer leading to miraculous provision and restoration.
• Nugget: Share testimonies of answered prayer to build congregation's expectancy.

5:19 — Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: The community has responsibility to restore wanderers; love seeks to bring back those who stray.
• Greek word study: planaō (πλανῶ) = err/stray; epistrephō (ἐπιστρέφω) = convert/bring back.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Promote restoration ministries and patient outreach toward those who have fallen away. Apostolic pastoral care emphasizes recovery, not rejection.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Upholds the church's mission to restore rather than to excommunicate prematurely — discipline aims at restoration.
• Nugget: Establish outreach and restoration teams to pursue those who stray.

5:20 — Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

• Apostolic Pentecostal Commentary: Restoring a sinner is eternally significant — bringing back a soul saves life and covers many sins.
• Greek word study: sōzō (σῴζω) = save; apokruptō (ἀποκρύπτω) = hide/cover; hamartia (ἁμαρτία) = sin.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Hermeneutic: Emphasize the high value of pastoral restoration and evangelistic recovery. Apostolic ministry is both evangelistic and restorative.
• Apostolic Pentecostal Apologetic: Argues for the church's restorative obligation as central to Christian witness and pastoral responsibility.

• Nugget: Celebrate restorations publicly (with humility) and equip members to lovingly pursue the lost and the erring.

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker