

**James 1: 16 – 21**  
**Solid Rock Church**  
**Pastor Elliott**  
**Anderson**



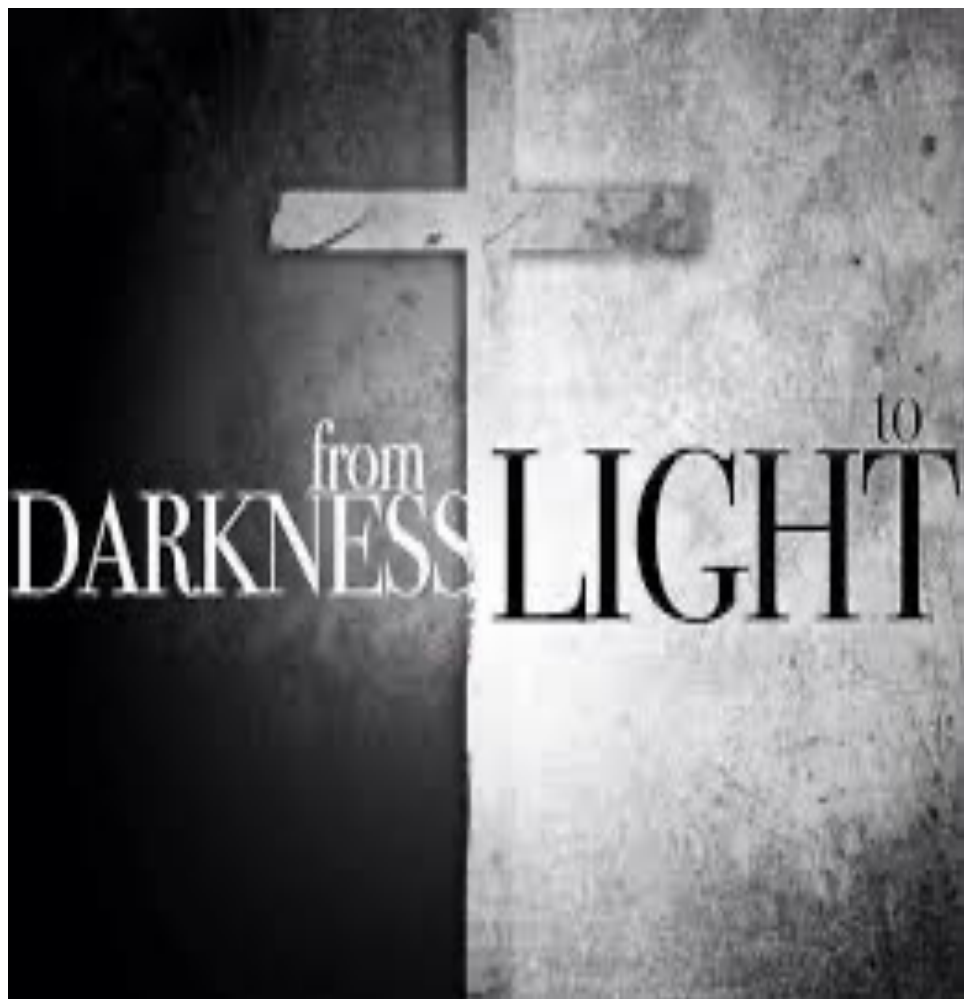
# **Contrasting Faith**

# Contrasting Life in Scripture

## The World vs Word

**John 17: 14**, I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.





# Contrasting Life in Scripture

## Darkness vs Light

**John 8: 12**, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.



**Contrasting Life in Scripture**

# Good vs Evil Verses

**Isaiah 5: 20**, Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil.

**Amos 5: 15**, Hate evil, love good.

**Romans 12: 21**, Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

# Good vs. Evil in the Heart

**Luke 6: 45,** The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces what is good; and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.



# Contrast Faith Command in James

James 1: 13 – 15, **God doesn't tempt us to sin; our lust (desire) carries us away**

**James 1: 16, Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren**

James 1: 17 – 21, **God is a good, generous Father...**

# Deceived: Passive Voice



**Stop allowing** ourselves to be misled by the evil one.

**Satan to Eve...** and to all of us.

*“Did God actually say?”*

*“You will not surely die.”*

# My Beloved Brethren

James reminding the readers / hearers of his authority and his love for them.



# Contrasting Faith Confirmed

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

**James 1:17**

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# We Must See God Above

**We can't** see God as a  
condemning, tempting,  
mean dictator.

**We must** see God as the  
benevolent, good, kind,  
loving Father.



# Above Verses in Scripture

God is Above all

Psalms 57: 5

We're born from Above

John 3: 7

Christ is from Above

John 3: 31

Seek things Above

Colossians 3: 1

Set your mind Above

Colossians 3: 2

Jesus, name Above all names

Philippians 2: 9

# Contrasting Birth and Fruits

In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

**James 1:18**

# Contrasting Birth

**Birth of Sin:** Sin “death” sequence (1: 15)

Then lust/desire, when it has conceived, gives birth to sin; and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

**Birth of Life:** God gave us birth by the word of truth...  
(1: 18) brings us fruit...

# Contrasting Fruit

**Galatians 5: 19**, Now the works of the flesh are evident; sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.

**Galatians 5: 22**, But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

# First Fruits of His (Christ's) Creatures?

Favor and  
Position

Special  
representation  
of God

Requirements  
and  
Responsibilities

# First Fruits:

## Deuteronomy 26

**1 – 11**, When you enter the land, which the Lord God gave you, and you possess it, and live in it, that you shall take some of the **first of all the produce** of the ground...that the Lord God gave you...and you shall put it in a basket...and go to the Priest...and the Priest shall set it down at the altar...and worship before the Lord your God.



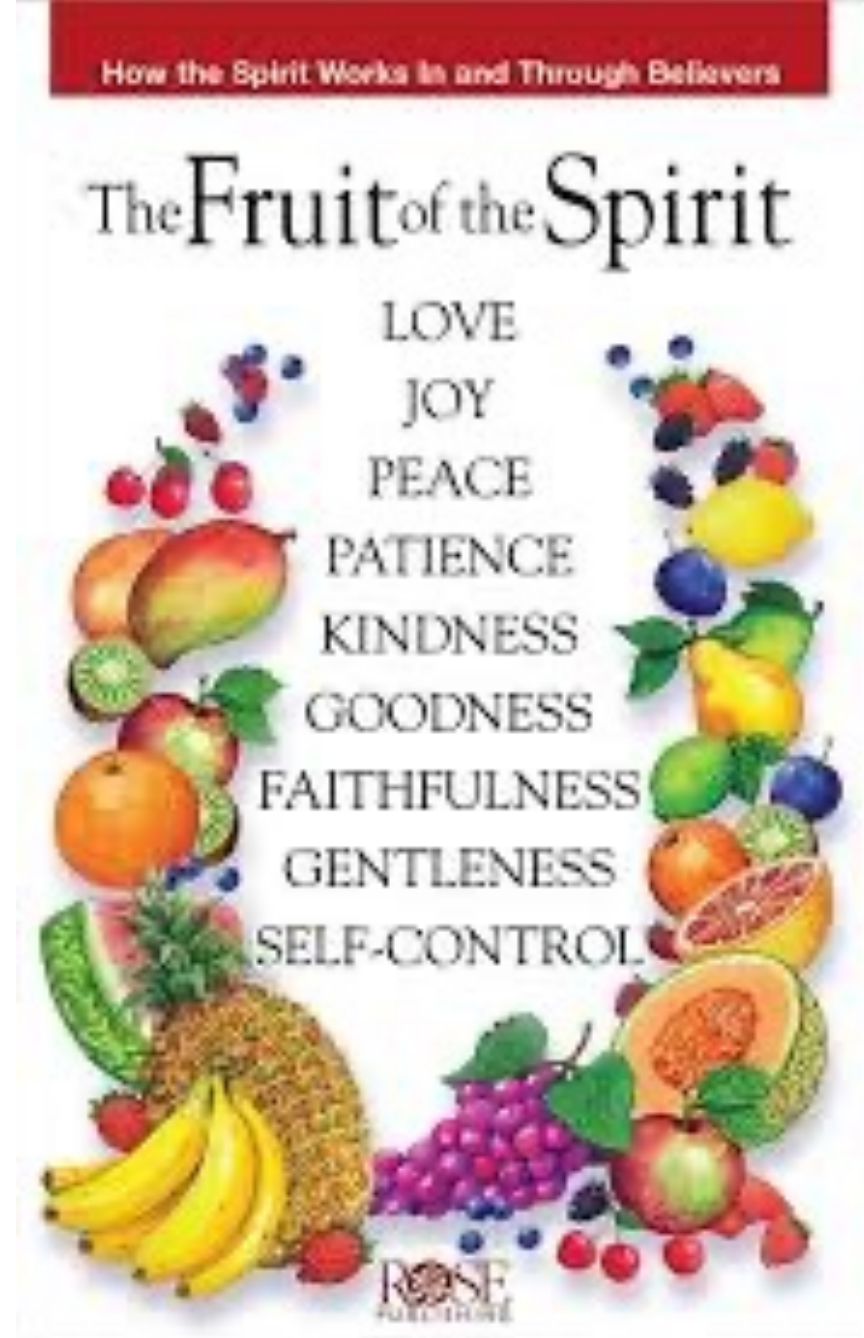
# Jesus: Our First Fruits of Resurrection

**1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15: 20**, But now Christ has raised from the dead, **the first fruits** of those who are asleep. For since by a man (Adam) came death, by a man (Jesus) also came the resurrection of the dead.



# We are First Fruits of the Holy Spirit

**Romans 8: 23**, And not only this, but also, we ourselves, having the **first fruits of the Spirit**, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.



## Contrasting Faith in Action

So then, my beloved brethren,  
let every man be swift to hear,  
slow to speak, slow to wrath.

**James 1:19**

# Contrasting Faith Action

Rather than carried away and enticed by sin (1: 14) we are to be...

Quick to Hear James 1: 22 – 25

Slow to Speak James 3: 1 - 12

Slow to Anger James 3: 13 - 18

# 1. Quick to Hear

**Matthew 13: 9**, He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

**Romans 10: 17**, So then, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.



# “Hearing” in Jewish Culture = “Doing”

**Mark 4: 24**, Consider carefully what you hear...

**Luke 8: 18**, Consider carefully how you listen...

**Matthew 13: 13**, Though seeing they do not see, those hearing they do not hear or understand.



# Active vs Passive Listening

**Passive:** disengaged physical hearing – noises registered

**Active:** *Willfully* attending to the message and messenger

*Understanding, remembering, evaluating, and responding because of the listening*



## 2. Slow to Speak



**Proverbs 18: 13,** He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him.

**Proverbs 17: 28,** Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his mouth, he is considered intelligent.

# Slow to Speak



Don't think about how you'll respond

Primacy effect – only remember 1<sup>st</sup> part

Recency effect – only remember last

**Proverbs 10: 19**, When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise.

### 3. Slow to Anger

**Proverbs 16:32**, He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules is spirit, than he who captures a city.

**Proverbs 19: 11**, Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.



# Righteous Anger

**Mark 3: 5**, He looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart.

**Ephesians 4: 26**, Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, do not let the sun go down on your anger and give an opportunity to the devil.

Focused on sin and injustice rather than personal.

A dark, stormy sky with a bright lightning bolt striking down on the right side. The clouds are dark and swirling, creating a dramatic and intense atmosphere.

James 1:20 – For the anger of  
man does not produce the  
righteousness of God.

**Anger Doesn't Achieve Righteousness**

So get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives, and  
humbly accept the word God has planted in your  
hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

**James 1:21**

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## Contrasting Faith Command

# Get Rid of Filth and Evil Areas of Vulnerability

What you watch and read

What you listen to

What you think about and ruminate

What you do

How you act

How you speak and communicate

Who you hang out with

