James 1:1

To the Diaspora

In practical theology …

I. To God's People Everywhere
- A. The Original Dispersion
- B. God's Scattered People

II. James a Bondservant
- A. The Man
- B. The Message
- C. The Motive

III. In Light of Jesus' Work
- A. The Master
- B. His Model
- C. Our Motivation

… faith is the context.

Children, Listen …

1. Whose half-brother was James?
2. When James calls himself a servant of Jesus he kind of means a slave? Is that a good thing? Why?
3. James is writing to the scattered Christians of his day, but is this letter for us too?
4. Is it enough to just believe in Jesus, or must we live for Him too?
5. What should make us want to live our lives for God?

Doxy & Praxy

All true theology is practical. Some theologians like to put it this way: all sound orthodoxy leads to orthopraxy – in other words all sound doctrine leads to sound practice. That does not mean that some books of the Bible are more pointedly practical than others, James is a case in point. While
The context of James' letter is clearly the Gospel message and the doctrines of grace the author drives home with sometimes painful clarity the vital importance of living out the Christian faith in tangible, observable ways. The summary statement is this: "faith without works is dead." The name of Jesus may only be mentioned in this epistle twice, but it is all about what the life of faith looks like for those who believe in Him. May God richly bless our endeavor as we explore together this wonderful book in God's Holy Scripture.