

Echoes in James of the Sermon on the Mount

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These echoes are listed in the order in which they first occur in James. Columns 2 and 4 generally contain exact quotations from the NIV—but sometimes summaries.

REFERENCE IN JAMES	WORDS OR THOUGHT THAT ECHO S/MT.	REFERENCE IN MATT. 5-7	WORDS OR THOUGHT ECHOED IN JAMES
1:2	Consider it pure joy...when you face trials	5:10-12	Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness...rejoice and be glad.
1:4	so that you may be mature (Gr. <i>teleion</i>) and complete	5:48	Be perfect (Gr. <i>teleioi</i>)...as your heavenly Father is perfect (Gr. <i>teleios</i>).
1:5; 4:2	He should ask God. You do not have because you do not ask.	7:7-11	The Father will give good gifts to those who ask him.
1:5, 17	God who gives generously to all...every good and perfect gift.	6:4, 6, 26-33; 7:11	Your Father...will reward you—will provide all your need just as He feeds the birds and clothes the grass—will give good gifts to those who ask Him.
1:6-8; 5:15-18	When he asks, he must believe and not doubt...or will not receive anything.	7:7-8	Ask (lit. keep on asking) and it will be given to you.
1:9 (cf. 2:2-5)	The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position.	5:3-5 (Luke 6:20-21)	Blessed are the poor in spirit (Luke, poor), for theirs is the kingdom of heaven....The meek...will inherit the earth.
1:12; 5:11	Blessed is the one who stands the test.	5:3-11 (7:25, 27)	Blessed are...(ch. 7 pictures the test)
1:12	crown of life...promised to those who love him	7:14	the road that leads to life

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1:19-20; 3:1-10	Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. (Control or lack of control of the tongue)	7:1-5; 5:22	Do not judge...first take the plank out of your own eye. Anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.
1:20	bring about the righteous life that God desires	5:6	hunger and thirst for righteousness
1:22-25	Do not merely listen to the word...do what it says.	7:24-27, 21-23	Everyone who hears these words...and puts them into practice is like a wise man. Not everyone who says to me "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father.
1:26	keep a tight rein on his tongue	7:4	How can you say..."Let me take the speck out..."?
1:27	religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress	6:1-2	your acts of righteousness ...when you give to the needy
2:5	Has not God chosen those who are poor...to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom...?	See for Js. 1:9.	See for Js. 1:9.
2:8	the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself"	5:43-47; 7:12	Love your enemies. Do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.
2:10	For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.	5:17-19	Anyone who breaks (lit, cancels) one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.

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2:11	Do not commit adultery...Do not murder	5:27, 21	[same commands]
2:13	judgment without mercy...to anyone who has not been merciful	5:7; 6:14-15	Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. If you forgive men when they sin...your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
2:14-26	can faith without deeds save?	7:21-23	See for Js. 1:22-25.
3:1-2 (see 4:11)	We who teach will be judged more strictly.	7:1-2	Do not judge, or you too will be judged...in the same way ...and with the measure you use.
3:13	Who is wise...? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds....	7:24 (5:1-2)	Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man....(They followed Him to learn.)
3:16; 4:1-3	For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find...every evil practice.	6:22-23	If your eyes are bad (=covetous), your whole body will be full of darkness.
3:17-18	The...wisdom...from heaven is first of all pure, then peace-loving....	5:8-9	Blessed are the pure in heart...the peacemakers....
4:4	friendship with the world is hatred toward God	6:24	No one can serve two masters...he will hate the one and love the other or....
4:6	God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.	5:5, 38-42	Blessed are the meek.... Do not resist an evil person.
4:8-10; 5:16	mourn and wail...humble yourselves	5:3-5, 23-26; 6:12	Blessed are those who mourn. Be reconciled to your brother. Forgive us our debts.

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4:11-12; 5:9	Do not slander one another; Don't grumble against each other.	7:1-5; 5:4	Do not judge....In the same way you judge others, you will be judged. Love your enemies.
4:13-15	Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will...make money."	6:34	Do not worry about tomorrow.
5:1-6	You rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you.	(Luke 6:24-25)	Woe to you...rich, for you have already received your comfort.
5:2-3	(You rich), your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.	6:19-21	treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy (not so in heaven)
5:9	The Judge is standing at the door.	7:21-23	Jesus promises to judge "on that day."
5:10	As an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets....	5:12	in the same way they persecuted the prophets
5:11	The Lord is full of compassion and mercy	6:26, 30, 32	Your heavenly Father feeds [the birds]...clothes the grass...knows that you need....
5:12	Do not swear...by anything ...let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No....'"	5:33-37	Do not swear at all....Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No....'"
5:15-16	If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other....	6:12-15	Forgive us our debts...If you forgive men...your heavenly Father will also forgive you.
5:16	The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.	7:7-8	Ask and it will be given to you; seek...knock.