A close-up photograph of a hand holding a yellow pencil, pointing at a multiple-choice test paper. The paper has several questions with options A, B, C, and D. The text 'Tests of Faith' is overlaid in large red font, and 'James 1-5' is overlaid in smaller red font below it.

Tests of Faith

James 1-5

Tests of Faith

- **James gives an overview of his epistle in James 1:2-4.**
- **He makes reference to “trials of various kinds” and “the testing of your faith.”**
- **The letter then is a text book about what tests we will face to prove our faith.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF SMARTNESS (Wisdom)**
 - **James 1:5-11**
 - **It comes from God.**
 - **Recognize our lowly state.**
- **THE TEST OF STEADFASTNESS**
 - **James 1:12-18**
 - **Under persecutions.**
 - **About our passions.**
 - **For our purpose.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF SUBMISSION**


- **James 1:19-27**

- **To the counsel of God through his word.**

- **To God's definition of religious.**

- **The word "religion" in verses 26 and 27 means, "ceremonial observances."**

- **In other words this text is dealing with hypocrites.**

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Tests of Faith

James 1-5

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF IMPARTIALITY**
 - **James 2:1-13**
 - **It is not Christian behavior to treat some people well and mistreat others.**
 - **It is wrong for us to develop improper evaluations of people due to appearance.**
 - **James says that this is not loving your neighbor as yourself and goes on to discuss the magnitude of this sin.**

Tests of Faith

• THE TEST OF COMPASSION

- James 2:14-17

- **Difference between empathy and compassion.**

- **Empathy**- The ability to understand of be sensitive to the feelings and experiences of others. (James 2:15)

- **Compassion**- sympathetic consciousness of others' distress together with a desire to **alleviate** it.


- **Jesus was moved with compassion.**

- Matt. 14:14- 5000 people.

- Mark 1:41- Leper.

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF ACTION/OBEDIENCE**
 - **James 2:18-26**
 - **Faith is made complete through action/works.**
 - **We hear many people say that “faith alone” saves you.**
 - **James 2:24 is the only text in the Bible that puts these two words side by side. What does it say? “...a person is justified by works and NOT by ‘faith alone.’”**
 - **A comparison is made to physical death and spiritual death.**

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Tests of Faith

James 1-5

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF THE TONGUE**

- **James 3:1-12**

- **Oh boy! Here we go.**

- **The tongue is described as “a fire, a world of unrighteousness.”**

- **Two uses-**

- **Blessing- Eph. 4:29; 5:4- Build up.**

- **Cursing- Eph. 4:31- Tear down.**

Tests of Faith

• THE TEST OF MEEKNESS

- James 3:13-18

- A full understanding of the concept of meekness requires a study in word association.

- The Greek word for meekness (prautes) is linked to mildness, gentleness, self-control, and humility.

- It is a disposition that allows one to respond to any situation appropriately because of his/her relationship with God.

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF MEEKNESS**

- **Vine's Expos. Dict. describes it this way, "An inwrought grace of the soul."**
- **Matt. 5:5.**
- **It accepts the wisdom that is from above and puts it into practice.**
- **How many of us operate more in the realm of jealousy and selfish ambition?**

Tests of Faith

• THE TEST OF WORLDLINESS

• James 4:1-5:6

- **Covetousness- 4:1-5. Also Col. 3:5 (idolatry).**

- **Pride/Arrogance- 4:6-17.**

- **Failure to turn to God.- vss. 6-10.**

- **Assuming the role of God in judging.- vss. 11-12.**

- **Presumption of control/self-sufficiency.- vss. 13-17.**

- **I've got time and money.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF WORLDLINESS**

- **James 4-5:6**

- **Wealth- 5:1-6**

- **Fraud**

- **Mistreat others to gain a dollar.**

- **Luxury and self-indulgence**

- **Fattened ourselves up for the slaughter like cattle.**

- **We get so wound up in our possessions that we forget what is most important in life.**

Tests of Faith

James 1-5



Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF PATIENCE**

- **James 5:7-11**

- **Be patient until the coming of the Lord and you will receive the precious fruit.**
- **Remember the prophets (spoke in the name of the Lord)**
 - **They did not always see the fruit of their labor.**
 - **They did not always last until things got better.**
 - **They did not always get what they wanted.**
 - **They did not change their message to avoid controversy, accommodate unrighteousness, or escape mistreatment.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF PATIENCE**

- **James 5:7-11**

- **Remember Job**

- **Had to endure the pain of Satan's joy.**

- **Have you ever thought about how Satan must have enjoyed himself at the expense of Job.**

- **Satan loves to inflict pain.**

- **Experienced the worst with which life can hit you.**

- **When it looked like there was no hope, there came renewal and blessings.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF HONESTY**

- **James 5:12**

- **James quotes our Lord from Matthew 5:34-37**

- **An oath involved invoking God's name or substitute for it to guarantee the truth of one's statements.**

- **Jesus' disciples are to have character of such integrity that their words can be believed without an oath.**

- **Ephesians 4:25.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF PRAYER**

- **James 5:13-18**

- **Believing in the power of prayer and making an exercise of it.**

- **Prayer for the sick.**

- **Probably related to miraculous gifts.**

- **Although physical healing is not guaranteed, Christians should still pray for the sick.**

- **Prayer for sin.**

- **Prayer makes a difference.**

Tests of Faith

- **THE TEST OF SOUL-SAVING**

- **James 5:19-20**

- **We must be diligent to spot those who are wandering from the truth. Those not living according to the word of truth.**

- **How concerned am I about those who are lost?**