

**PRACTICAL LESSONS TO LIVE BY**  
*“The Marks of Maturity!”*

8/23/09

James Overview

1. WHAT MATURITY IS **NOT**:

- It's Not *Age*.
- It's Not *Appearance*.
- It's Not *Achievement*.
- It's Not *Academics*.

2. WHAT MATURITY **IS**:

- It is *Attitude*.
- It is *Actions*.

3. WHAT MATURITY **DOES**:

A. A Mature Person is *Positive Under Pressure*.

**“Consider it pure joy, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know the testing of your faith develops perseverance and perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete not lacking anything.” (James 1:2-4)**

B. A Mature Person is *Sensitive to People*.”

**“If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself you are doing right.’” (James 2:8)**

C. A Mature Person Has *Mastered His Mouth*.

**“We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man (mature), able to keep his whole body in check.” (James 3:2)**

**“Do not let any negative talk come out of your mouth but only what is helpful for building up others according to their needs.” (Eph. 4:29)**

**Gossip: hearing something you like about somebody you don't!**

D. A Mature Person is a *Peacemaker*.

**“What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?” (James 4:1)**

*a. Selfishness.*

**“When you ask you do not receive. But you ask with the wrong motives that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.” (James 4: 3)**

*b. Judging.*

**“Brothers, do no slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it....There is only one lawgiver and judge, one who is able to save and destroy. But you, who are you to judge your neighbor?” (James 4:11-12)**

E. A Mature Person is *Patient and Prays*.

**“Be patient then, brothers, until the Lord's coming.” (James 5:7)**

**“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” (James 5:11)**