

Wednesday Night Class

Jan-Feb 2021 • Dahlonega Church of Christ

THE GENERAL EPISTLE OF JAMES

JAMES, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience;

But let patience have *her* perfect end, that ye may be perfect and lacking nothing.

If any lack wisdom, let him ask of God liberally, and

he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

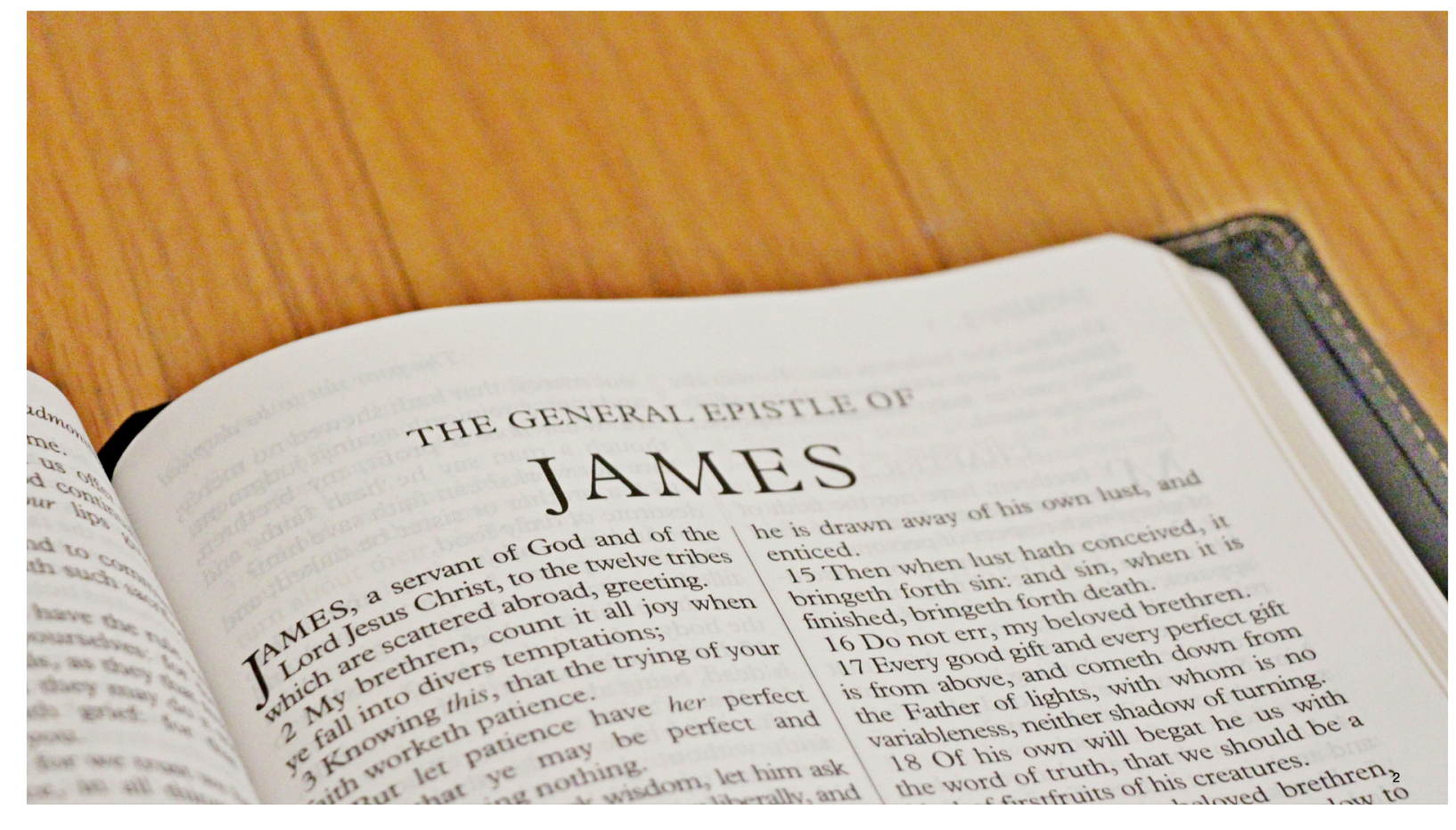
15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

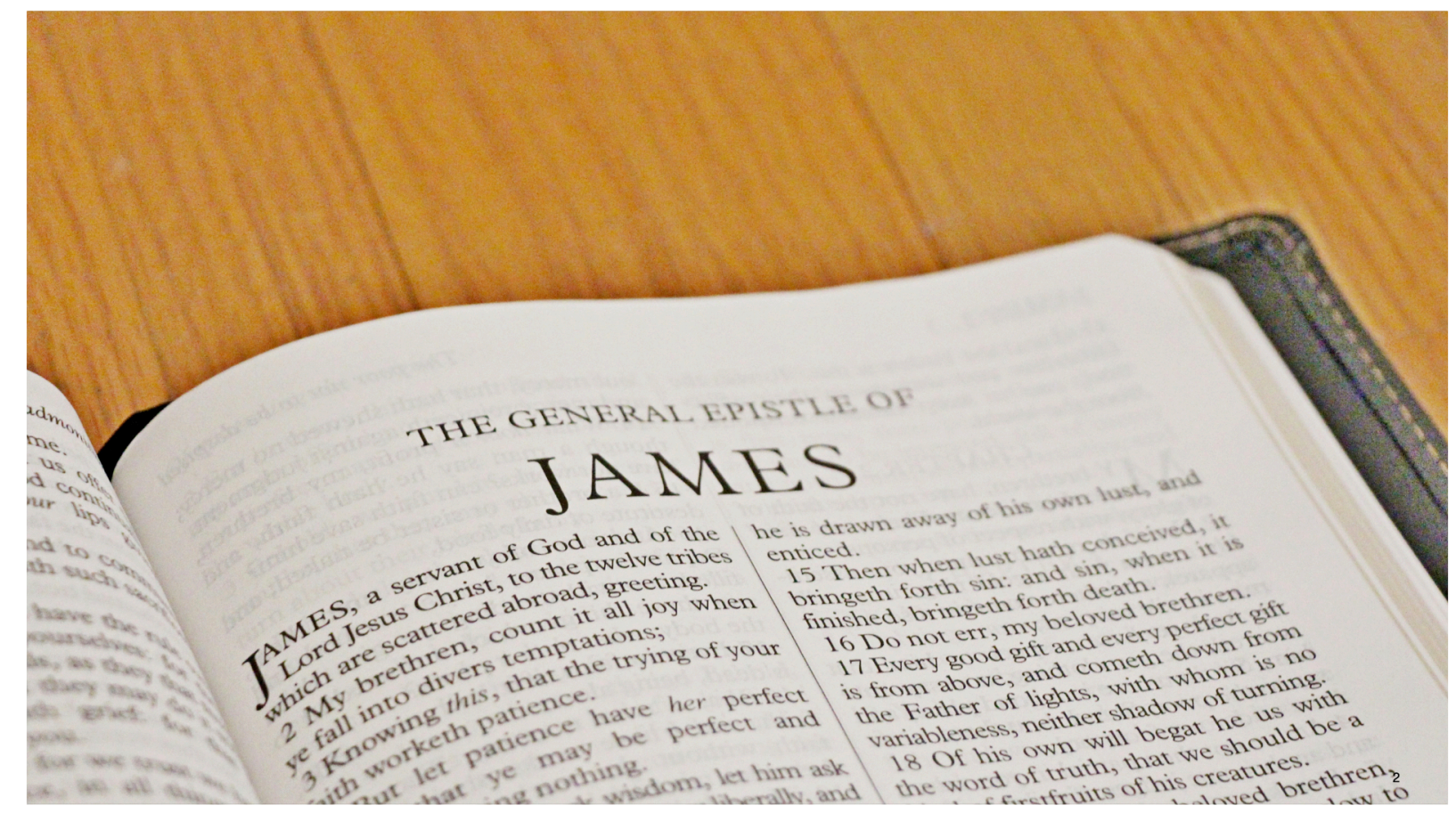
My beloved brethren, slow to



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - General Outline

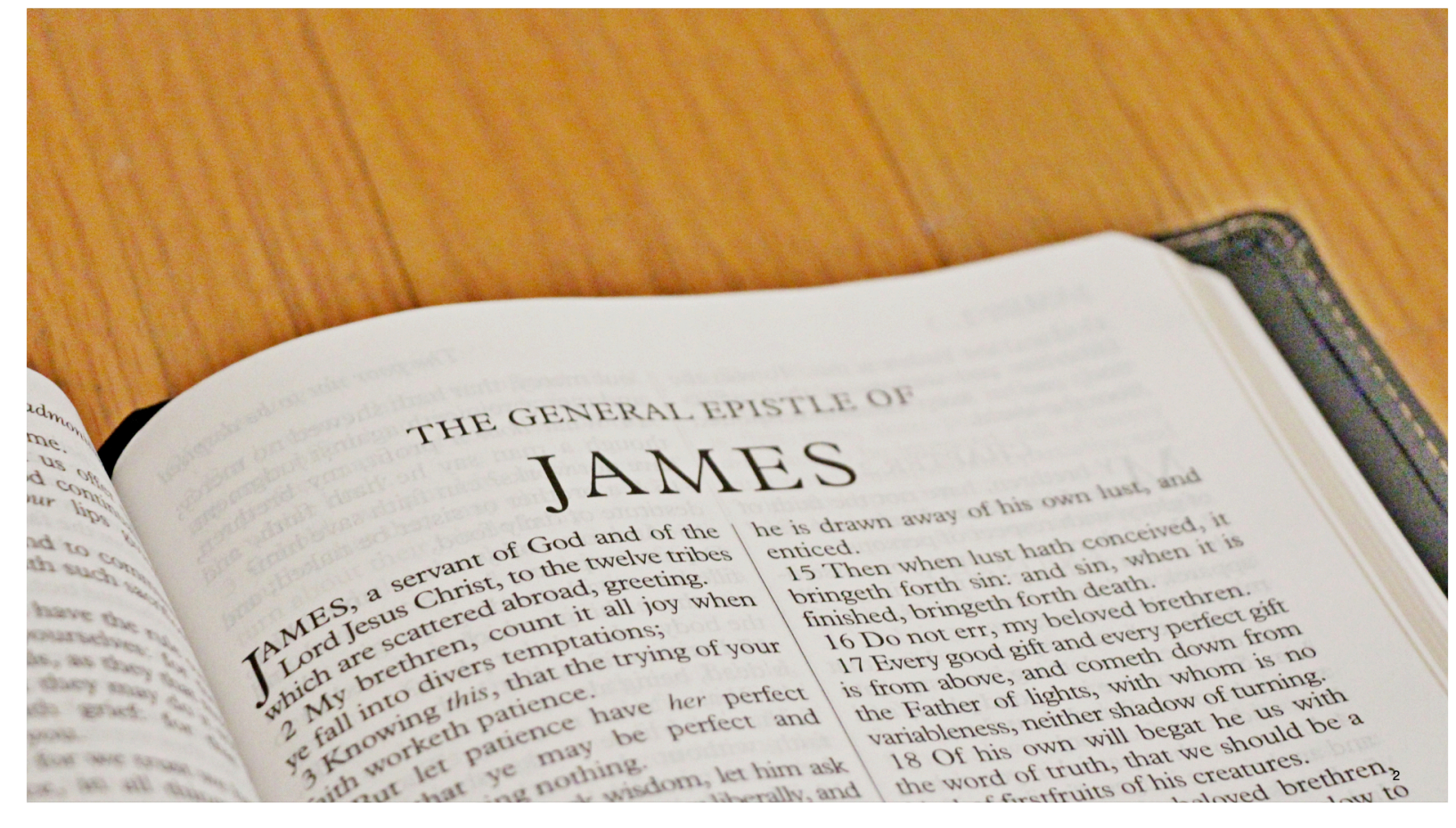
- **1.1** • Author, recipients, greetings
- **1.2-8** - The positive value of trials
- **1.9-11** - Humility over hubris
- **1.12-15** - The blessings of temptation
- **1.16-18** - God's good gifts generously graces us
- **1.19-20** - Graced by God: we must be patient as God is patient
- **1.21** - Graced by God: in concert with & saved by his will/word, we avoid sin
- **1.22-25** - Graced by God: we not only hear God's word, we obey it
- **1.26-27** - Graced by God: we must not only think right, we must act right



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - Detailed Outline

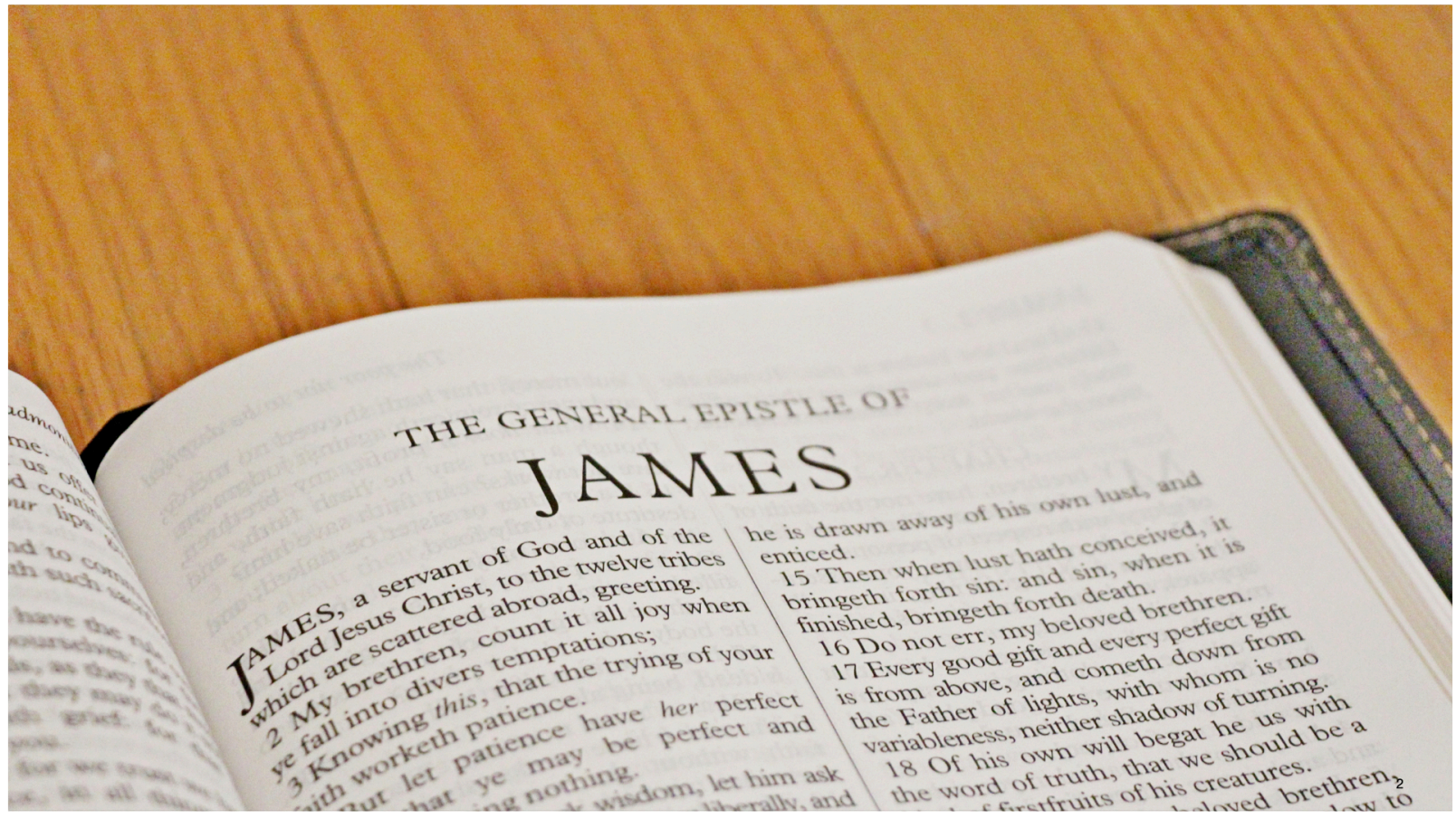
- 1.1
 - Author, James
 - James, in NT (Iakobos), a form of OT “Jacob”
 - son of Zebedee Mk 1.16ff • son of Alphaeus Mt 10.3 • tax collector Mk 2.14
 - son of Mary, not an apostle Mt 27.56 • father of Judas, not Iscariot Lk 6.16
 - brother of Jesus Mk 6.3, Lk 6.16
 - **literal brother/half-brother of Jesus** (son of Mary/Joseph)
 - step-brother of Jesus (son of Joseph but not Mary)
 - some other relative of Jesus



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - Detailed Outline

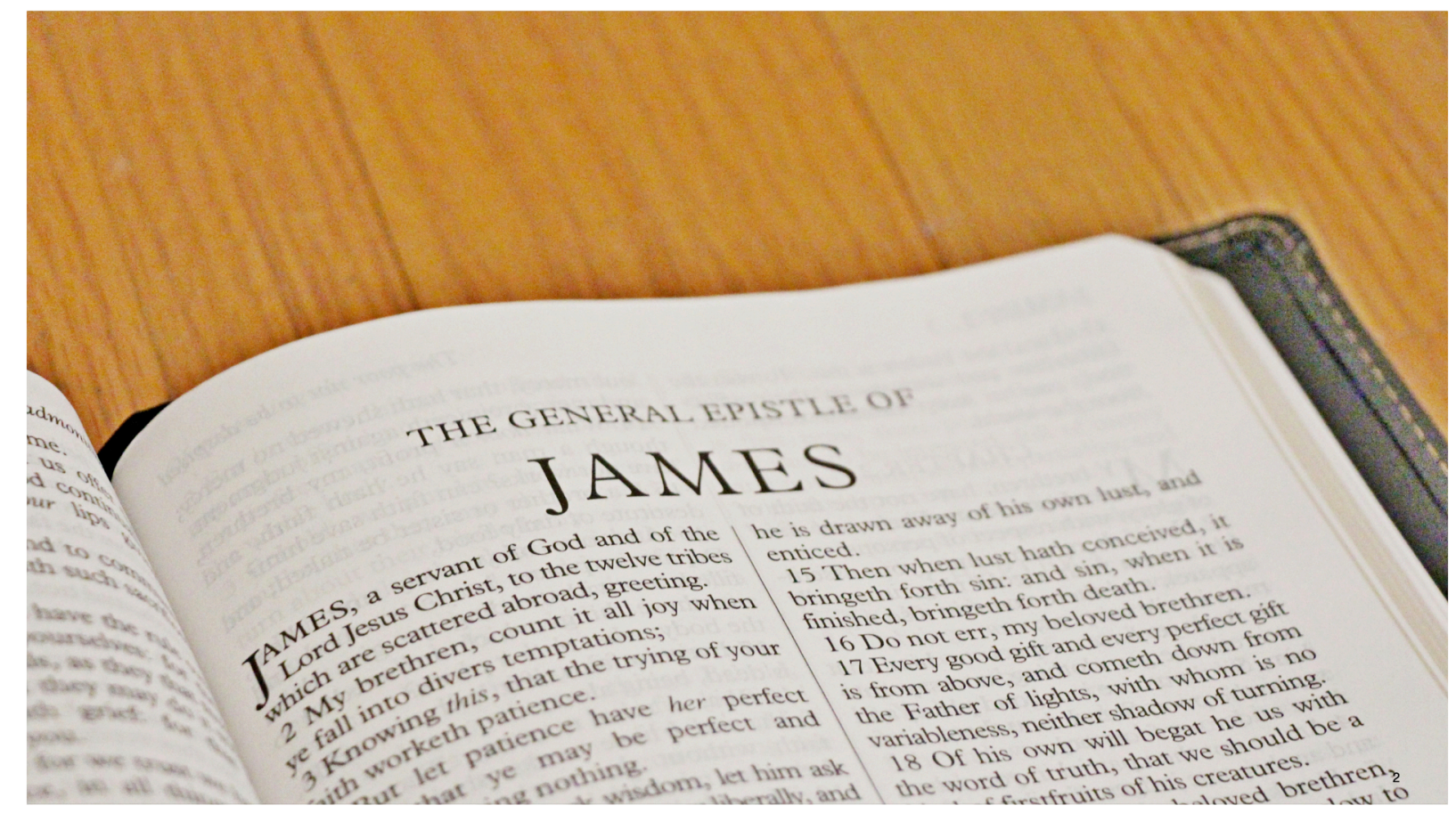
- 1.1
 - Author, James
 - Jesus' brothers did not initially believe in him Jn 7.5
 - Jesus' brothers were part of the apostles' group after resurrection Acts 1.14
 - James was ...
 - a witness of the resurrected Messiah 1 Cor 15.7 • brother of Jude Jude 1.1
 - identified as a key "leader" in the early church Acts 12.17
 - Played a key role in the Jerusalem meeting Acts 15.1ff
 - Paul's mention of him was consistent with that role Acts 21.18, Gal 1.19, 2.1ff



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - Detailed Outline

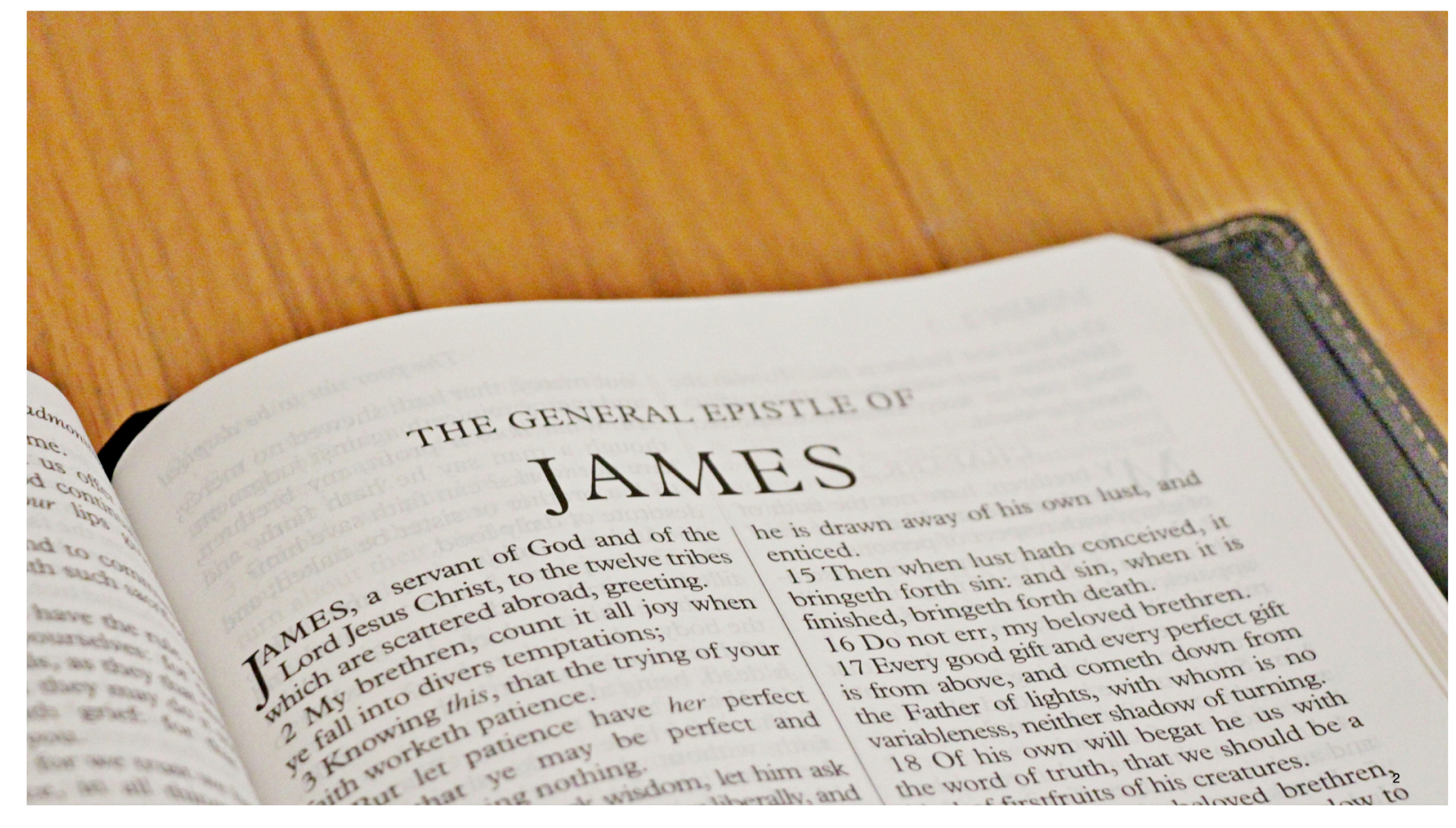
- 1.1
 - Author, James
 - Identified as ...
 - A “bondservant of God” ...
 - “And of the Lord Jesus Christ”
 - Bondservant/slave (δουλος)
 - Usually used in a *positive sense* of those totally devoted to the Lord Mt 20.27, Mk 10.44, Rom 1.1, 2 Pet 1.1, Jude 1
 - Often used with reference to the apostles • Freq noted first before apostleship



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - Detailed Outline

- 1.1
 - Recipients ... The twelve tribes
 - Used in multiple senses
 - Literally • The physical sons of Jacob/Israel Gen 29ff • Their respective tribes/descendants Gen 49.16, 28, Ex 24.4, 28.21
 - Parallel • The twelve apostles chosen by Jesus, physically Mt 10.1, 5, 11.1, 20.17; metaphorically/spiritually Mt 19.28, Lk 22.30, Acts 26.7
 - Metaphorically/spiritually • Applied to Christ's followers, those taught by the twelve Rev 5.5-21.12



Studies In James - 01/13/2021

James 1 - Detailed Outline

- 1.1
 - Recipients ... “are scattered abroad”
 - Diaspora/dispersion cf. Jn 7.35, Acts 15.23
 - Refers to someone living in country not their own (ie., stranger, foreigner, pilgrim - cf Acts 2.9-11, I Pet 1.1
 - OT Jewish dispersion prophesied by Moses Lev 26.33, Deut 4.27, 28.64, cf. Gen 11.8-9
 - Negatively: Applied to the Jews after Assyrian/Babylonian captivities (for their lack of faith) • Positively: Referred to their return Deut 30.3, Jer 31, Ez 37

