

James Letta

¹ Dis letta yah fom James, wa da wok fa God an fa we Lawd Jedus Christ. A James da greet all ob oona ob de tweb tribe dem, wa da lib scatta all oba de wol way.

Mus Trus God Wid All Oona Haat

² Me Christian bredren, wen all kind ob ting come wa mek oona suffa, mus ondastan dat oona oughta be full op wid joy. ³ Cause oona know, dem ting dey come fa test oona fait. An dat mek oona mo able fa beah all ting wa come oona way. ⁴ Mus keep on da beah op onda mo an mo, so dat oona gwine be jes wa God wahn oona fa be een ebery way, an oona ain gwine be nottin less den God wahn oona fa be. ⁵ Ef one ob oona hab need fa mo sense bout sompin, leh um aks God, an God gwine gim. Cause God da gii wid open han ta all people, an e heppy fa do dat. E ain gwine find no fault wid um. ⁶ Bot wen one ob oona aks God fa sompin, dat one haffa bleebe dat God gwine gim wa e aks fa. E mus dohn doubt none tall. Cause de one wa da doubt, e jes like de swellin wata wen de wind da blow an toss um all roun. Dat one wa da doubt ain steady eben a leetle bit. ⁷ An dat poson dey oughta know, de Lawd ain gwine gim nottin tall. ⁸ Cause e jes a hypicrit, an e da change e mind een all de way e da gwine.

Dem Christian wa Ain Got Nottin an Dem wa Got Plenty Ting

⁹ De Christian broda wa ain got nottin mus be heppy wen God mek um mo high op. ¹⁰ An de Christian wa got plenty ting, e oughta be heppy wen God bring um low. Cause e ain gwine las, jes like a fine wile flowa wa ain las long tall. ¹¹ De hot sun kin come an bun de plant. Den de plant widda an de flowa faddown, an dey ain no fine flowa no mo. Same way so, de one wa got plenty ting, e gwine pass oba wiles e da go bout e bidness.

Mus Dohn Stop fa Trus Wen Trial Come Oona Way

¹² De poson wa ain stop fa trus God wen trial come ta um an wa able fa beah um, e bless fa true. Cause wen e still stanop scronga fa God atta dat trial, God gwine gim de true life wa ain gwine neba end. Dat de life wa God promise dem wa lob um.

¹³ Wen trial come ta ya an ya wahn fa sin, ya mus dohn say, "God da sen dis trial fa mek me sin." Cause God ain neba wahn fa do nottin e bil, an e ain neba do nottin fa mek nobody wahn fa sin.

¹⁴ De e bil ting dat somebody study pon an wahn een e own haat, dat wa ketch um an mek um wahn fa sin. ¹⁵ Den wen e gii een an mek op e mind fa do dat e bil ting wa e wahn een e haat, e do dat sin. An wen e keep on da sin, den dat sin gwine mek um dead faeba.

¹⁶ Me deah Christian bredren, mus dohn leh nobody fool oona. ¹⁷ God de one dat gii we all dem ting wa good fa true an wa betta mo den all. Dem ting wa good fa true come fom we Fada God ob all light, wa mek de sun, de moon, an de staa dem. God ain neba change, an e ain neba gwine ton way

fom we an lef we een de daak atta e done mek e light shine pon we. ¹⁸ God esef plan fa mek e wod wa true gii we dis nyew life, so dat we kin be a kind ob fus fruit ob all wa e mek.

Mus Do wa God Wod Say

¹⁹ Me deah Christian bredren, mus dohn fagit dis! All ob oona oughta be ready fa yeh, bot oona oughta tek time fo oona taak. An mus dohn git bex too quick. ²⁰ Cause wen somebody git bex, dat ain gwine bring bout wa scraight een God eye. ²¹ So den, mus shrow way all dem bad ting oona da do an all de ebil outta oona life. Pit oonasef onda God fa do wa e wahn. An leh de wod wa God plant een oona haat lib een oona, cause e wod got powa fa sabe oona.

²² Mus do wa God wod say. Ef ya jes yeh God wod bot ain do wa e tell ya fa do, ya da fool yasef. ²³ De one wa yeh God wod an ain do wa God tell um, e same like somebody wa look at esef een a lookin glass an see wa e look like. ²⁴ Bot wen e done look at esef een de lookin glass, e go pon e way an right way fagit how e look. ²⁵ Bot God wod, dat de law wa right fa all people an wa mek we free. Ef we study pon um an pit all we haat pon wa e da laan we, an ef we ain jes yeh um an den fagit wa we yeh, ef we keep on da do wa dat law say, den God gwine bless we een wa we da do.

²⁶ Ef one ob oona tink e da do all wa God wahn um fa do an stillyet e onrabble e mout, e da fool esef. Wa dat one da do fa God ain wot nottin. ²⁷ De one wa da do wa God wahn, e da hep de chullun wa ain got no modda needa no fada. E da hep de wida ooman dem wen dey da suffa. E keep way

fom de bad ting dem een dis wol. De one wa da do dat, e da do wa good fa true, an e clean een we Fada God eye.

2

Mus Dohn Treat One Poson Mo Betta Den Noda

¹ Me Christian bredren, oona bleebe fa true pon we Lawd Jedus Christ, de Lawd ob glory. So den, mus dohn treat one poson mo betta den noda cause ob how ya see de poson. ² Sposin oona da meet togeda fa woshup an two man come een. One dem man, e da weah gole ring an hab on fine cloes. De oda man ain got nottin. E da weah ragitty cloes. ³ Oona gii haaty welcome ta de man wa dress een fine cloes an tell um say, "Come seddown yah, op een de bes place." Bot oona tell de man wa ain got nottin say, "Go, stanop yonda!" or "Come seddown yah pon de flo!" ⁴ Ef ya do like dat, ya da sin fa sho, cause ya ain treat all people de same way an ya da wide op de people one ginst noda. Oona da jedge one noda coddin ta de e bil ting dem oona tink een oona haat.

⁵ Me deah Christian bredren, listen ta me! De people wa ain got nottin een dis wol, God done pick dem fa be rich een fait an fa be wid God weh e da rule, jes like e promise fa do fa all dem wa lob um. ⁶ Bot oona treat de po people like dey ain wot nottin! De people wa got plenty ting, dey da mek oona do wa dey say, ainty? Dey da mek oona go fo de jedge, ainty? ⁷ Fa true dey da shrow slam an sult de good name ob Jedus Christ. An dat de name wa God been tek fa mek oona be e own people.

⁸ Oona da do de right ting ef oona do wa de law een God Book say. E tell we say, “Mus lob ya neighba jes like ya lob yasef.” ⁹ Bot ef oona treat one poson mo betta den noda poson by how de poson look, oona sin. An de Law condemn oona, say oona broke de Law. ¹⁰ Ef somebody da do all wa God Law say, cep e broke jes one paat ob de Law, e guilty as dat poson wa broke all paat ob de Law. ¹¹ God wa say, “Ya mus dohn sleep wid noda man wife,” e de same God wa say too, “Ya mus dohn kill nobody.” So den, eben ef ya ain sleep wid noda man wife, ef ya kill somebody, ya done broke de Law. ¹² Tek cyah den, dat oona da taak an oona da do right, jes like people oughta do dat God gwine jedge coddin ta de law wa da mek people free. ¹³ Ef a poson ain got no mussy pon noda poson, God ain gwine gii dat poson no mussy wen e jedge um. Bot mussy da win out oba jedgiment.

Trus God an Do Ting Wa Show Oona Trus Um

¹⁴ Me Christian bredren, e ain mean nottin ef somebody say e trus God bot wa e do ain show dat e trus um. Ef e trus God an e ain da do nottin wa show e trus um, dat ain gwine sabe um, ainty? ¹⁵ Sposin one ob oona Christian broda or sista ain got de cloes dem e need fa weah, an ain got nuff food fa nyam ebry day. ¹⁶ Ef one ob oona tell um say, “Go, an God bless ya! Keep waam an nyam nuff,” bot e ain gim nottin wa e need fa e body, dem wod ain mean nottin! ¹⁷ Well den, dat so e stan wen somebody trus God. Ef e jes taak, da say

e trus God, de fait ob dat poson wa da say e trus God cyahn do nottin. E fait dead.

¹⁸ Bot somebody gwine say, “One poson trus God. Noda one da do good ting dem.” A ansa dat one say, “Show me how somebody kin trus God an stillyet e ain do nottin fa show e trus God. Bot wa A da do, dat gwine show dat A trus God.”

¹⁹ Ya bleebe dat dey jes one God. Ya right! Bot eben de ebil sperit dem bleebe dat, an dat mek um tremble cause dey scaid ob um. ²⁰ Ya fool! Ya wahn me fa show ya, ainty? Ef ya trus God bot ya ain da do nottin dat show ya trus um, ya fait ain mean nottin. ²¹ Ya memba bout we ole people leada name Abraham. Wa mek all ting right twix Abraham an God? All ting been mek right twix Abraham an God cause e done wa God tell um fa do. E tek e son Isaac fa go sacrifice um pon de alta.

²² So den, ya see dat Abraham beena trus God, an e done wa God tell um fa do too. An cause ob wa Abraham done, e been able fa trus God mo den all, jes like God wahn um fa do. ²³ An dat happen jes like dey write een God Book say, “Abraham trus God, an cause ob dat, all ting been mek scraight twix esef an God.” An God say, “Abraham me fren.” ²⁴ So den, ya see dat God mek all ting right twix a poson an esef wen dat poson da do right. E ain jes cause de poson trus God an ain do nottin.

²⁵ Same way so, Rahab, de screet ooman dat lib loose life, e been hide de Jew messenja dem wa come fa spy, an hep um pass noda way fa git way fom dey enemy. Cause ob wa Rahab done, God say all ting been mek right twix Rahab an esef, ainty?

²⁶ So den, jes like a poson body done dead wen

dey ain no sperit een um, same way so a poson wa say e trus God bot e ain do ting wa show e trus um, dat poson fait dead.

3

Jes God Able Fa Trol We Mout

¹ Me Christian bredren, jes a few ob oona oughta be teacha. Cause oona know God gwine jedge we wa da laan oda people mo scronga den e gwine jedge oda people. ² We all da do plenty ting wa ain right. Bot de one wa neba say nottin wa ain right, dat one ain do nottin wa ain right. E able fa trol all paat ob esef. ³ We kin pit a leetle iron bit eenta de hoss mout fa mek um pay we mind. Dat way we mek um go wehsoneba we wahn um fa go. ⁴ Study pon dem ship dey een de wata. Dey big, an de big breeze kin tek um all oba de place. Bot jes a leeleetle rudda wa dey pit onda de ship da trol um an mek um go ta wasoneba side de ship pilot wahn fa mek um go. ⁵ Same way so, we mout a small paat ob we body, bot e kin brag bout plenty big ting.

Leh we study pon how jes a leeleetle spark ob fire da mek a big forest bun! ⁶ We mout, e a fire. E a wol ob ebil. E jes one paat ob we body, bot e da mek all we body bad. We mout da staat fire wa stroy we fom de time wen we bon til we dead. Dem bad ting wa come outta we mout, dey come outta hell esef. ⁷ People able fa trol all kind ob animal an bod, all kind ob reptile an ting wa lib een de sea. ⁸ Bot ain nobody able fa trol e mout. We mout a ebil ting wa ain neba stop wen we da

taak bad, jes like a snake wa full op wid pison wa da kill. ⁹ One time wid we mout we kin praise we Lawd an Fada God, an noda time we kin bad mout people, wa God mek fa be like esef. ¹⁰ Wid dis same mout yah we praise God an we bad mout people. Me Christian bredren, e ain oughta be like dat. ¹¹ Oona ain gwine git fresh wata wa taste fine an bad wata wa taste ob salt outta de same well, ainty? ¹² Me bredren, fa true, a fig tree cyahn beah no olib. A grapewine cyahn beah no fig. Same way so, fresh wata cyahn come outta salt wata well.

De Sense wa God Gii

¹³ Who dat mongst oona dey wa got sense an ondastan plenty ting? Leh um waak scraight an do good. An e mus dohn be proud. E oughta do all ting wid sense. Wen e lib like dat, dat gwine show dat e got sense an e da ondastan. ¹⁴ Bot ef ya got de big eye an ya jes da wahn all ting fa yasef, ya mus dohn brag, da say ya good an got sense. Cause ef ya do so, ya ain taak true. ¹⁵ E ain God wa gii people dis kind ob sense yah. Dat dis wol kinda sense. E ain got nottin fa do wid God. E come fom de Debil. ¹⁶ Cause wensoneba people got de big eye an dey jes da wahn all ting fa deysef, oona ain gwine find no peace dey, an people gwine do wasoneba dey wahn fa do. Dey gwine do all kind ob ebil ting. ¹⁷ Bot de one wa got de sense wa God gii, e got a clean haat fom God. Dat de fus ting. De one wa got dat kind ob sense dey, e lob peace, an e like fa hep people, an e pay mind ta um. All de time e mussyful an da do plenty good. All e haat dey fa God. E ain no hypicrit. ¹⁸ De people wa da

mek peace, dey like a faama wa da plant seed fa peace. An dis seed yah gwine beah a heapa good een people haat.

4

Do wa God Wahn Oona fa Do

¹ Wa ting mek oona fight an aagy mongst oonasef? De ting dem wa dey eenside oona haat, ting wa oona wahn fa sattify oonasef, dey da fight eenside oona an da mek oona fight an aagy wid one noda. ² Oona wahn sompin, bot oona ain got um, so oona kill noda poson, an oona git de big eye. Bot oona cyahn git wa oona wahn. Oona aagy an fight one noda. Oona ain got wa oona wahn, cause oona ain aks God fa gim ta oona. ³ Ya kin aks God fa sompin an God ain gim ta ya, cause de reason wa mek ya aks ain right. Ya aks fa dem ting wa ya wahn fa sattify yasef, no mo. ⁴ Ya like a ooman wa ain scraight wid e husban. Oona ton way fom God. Fa sho, oona know dat wen oona lob de ting dem wa dey een de wol, dat gwine mek oona God enemy, ainty? De one wa mek op e mind fa go atta dem ting een de wol, e da mek esef God enemy. ⁵ Oona mean fa say, e fa nottin God Book tell we say, “De sperit wa God pit eenside we, e wahn we jes fa esef?” ⁶ Bot de blessin wa God gii we, dat mo scronga. Dat wa mek um write een God Book say, “God da set esef ginst proud people wa go dey own way, bot e da bless dem wa tek low an leh God tek um een e way.”

⁷ So den, pit yasef onda God fa do wa e wahn. Stanop an fight de Debil, an e gwine ron way fom

ya. ⁸ Come close ta God, an e gwine come close ta ya. Oona wa beena sin, oona mus wash ya han dem clean fom sin. Oona people wa wahn fa lob bof de wol an God, mus clean all dem bad ting outta oona haat. ⁹ Memba dem bad ting oona beena do, an be saary an cry. Mus stop fa laugh an staat fa cry. Oona ain oughta be heppy. Oona oughta be too saary. ¹⁰ Pit yasef onda de Lawd an do wa e wahn, an e gwine lif ya op.

Mus Dohn Judge Nobody

¹¹ Me Christian bredren, mus dohn taak bad bout one noda. De one wa da taak bad bout e broda or jedge um, dat one dey da taak bad bout God Law, an e da jedge dat Law. Ef ya jedge God Law, dat mean fa say ya ain da do wa God Law tell ya fa do no mo. Steada dat, oona de jedge ob God Law. ¹² God de onliest lawgiba an jedge. Jes God got powa fa sabe people or fa stroy um. Oona ain got no right fa jedge oda people.

Mus Dohn Brag

¹³ Now listen op. A da taak ta oona wa da say, “Taday or demarra A gwine go ta dat town yonda or ta dat one oba dey. A gwine go trade oba dey an mek me some money.” ¹⁴ Bot oona ain eben know wa gwine happen demarra. Cause wa ya life? Ya life jes like fog wa dey dey one minute an de oda minute e done gone. ¹⁵ Wen oona wahn fa taak bout wa oona gwine do, oona oughta say, “Ef God spare me life, A ain gwine dead an we gwine do dis ting yah or dat ting dey.” ¹⁶ Bot now fa true oona taak high an brag bout wa oona gwine do demarra. All biggity taak like dat, e ebil.

¹⁷ So den, ef somebody know wa right fa do an e ain do um, dat one dey da sin.

5

God Waan Dem wa Got Plenty Ting an Ain Do Right ta Oda People

¹ Oona wa got plenty ting, listen ta wa A gwine tell ya now. Oona oughta cry tommuch cause ob de suffrin wa da come pon oona! ² De heapa ting wa oona got, dey done rot way, an de mot dem nyam op oona cloes. ³ Oona gole an silba done been kiba wid rust. An dat rust gwine condemn oona an gwine nyam op oona body jes like a fire kin do. Oona done sto op plenty ting een dis wol wa gwine end. ⁴ Look yah! Oona ain pay de people dem wa beena wok pon oona faam. Listen ta dem da cry out ginst oona! Dem wa beena geda crop da cry out. An God wa got powa oba all, e done yeh dey cry. ⁵ Oona life been full op wid all kinda fine ting dat oona been wahn an got een de wol, an oona beena do all wa oona wahn fa do. All dem ting yah wa oona got fa oonasef, dey mek oona like cow wa done fat, ready fa git kill. ⁶ Oona done condemn an kill people wa ain done nottin wrong, an ain fight ginst oona.

Beah Op Onda All Oona Trouble an Aks God fa Hep Oona

⁷ Me Christian bredren, beah op onda all oona trouble, da wait til de Lawd come back. Memba how de faama kin wait fom wen e plant de seed een de groun til de time come fa haabis e walyable crop. E kin beah ebryting, da wait fa de rain fa

come een de fall an een de spring time. ⁸ Same way so, oona mus beah op onda ebryting an wait. Mus dohn neba gii op, cause de time da come soon wen de Lawd gwine come back.

⁹ Me Christian bredren, mus dohn grumble bout one noda, so dat God ain gwine jedge oona. De Jedge gwine come right way. E da stan een de doormout. ¹⁰ Me Christian bredren, memba de prophet dem wa beena taak de wod ob de Lawd. Dey beena suffa plenty, bot dey beah all dey fliction. ¹¹ We say God bless um cause dey ain gii op. Oona yeh how Job beena beah a heapa suffrin, an oona know how de Lawd come bless um at las. Cause de Lawd full op wid mussy fa we, an e wahn fa hep we.

¹² Me bredren, mo den all, A wahn oona fa know, wen oona promise sompin, mus dohn mek no wow da say, “A sweah by heaben” or “A sweah by dis wol.” Mus dohn sweah by nottin wen oona promise sompin. Stead ob dat, ef oona gree ta sompin, oona oughta say, “Yeah.” An ef oona ain gree, oona oughta say, “No.” Den God ain gwine condemn oona.

¹³ Ef one ob oona da suffa, leh um aks God fa hep um. Ef one ob oona heppy, leh um sing, leh um sing praise ta God. ¹⁴ Ef one ob oona sick, leh um aks fa de choch elda dem. Leh um come pray oba um an naint um wid oll een de name ob de Lawd. ¹⁵ An ef dey trus God, dat e gwine ansa dey pray, dat sick poson gwine git well. God gwine mek um well gin. An ef dat poson beena sin, God gwine paadon um. ¹⁶ So den, tell one noda de sin dem wa oona done an be saary cause ob um, an pray

fa one noda, so dat God gwine mek oona well. De one wa da waak scraight wid God, e pray got great powa an God gwine ansa um fa sho. ¹⁷ Elijah been a man like wesef. E pray wid all e haat dat God ain gwine leh no rain come. An e ain rain none tall pon de groun dey fa shree yeah an six mont. ¹⁸ Den wen Elijah pray gin, an aks God fa sen rain, de rain come down, an de plant dem staat fa grow crop gin.

¹⁹ Me bredren, ef one ob oona da wanda way fom God true way, an den noda one ob oona bring um back, ²⁰ oona kin know, de one wa bring one sinna back ta God way, an hep um ton fom do bad, dat poson da sabe de sinna soul fom det, an God gwine paadon plenty sin.

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The New Testament

in Sea Island Creole English

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