

## *James ben Joseph Discussion*

*Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.*

*What would it be like for you to be a younger sibling of Jesus?*

*What would it be like for Jesus to have younger siblings?*

*Catholics picture Mary as a perpetual virgin and Jesus as an only child. Why did God NOT arrange it to be that way?*

*Do you think that Jesus was tempted in childhood to use His powers?*

*Is it consistent with Scripture that He did not?*

*Is it reasonable to believe that some people never believed Mary and Joseph's story about Jesus conception?*

*Would Jesus Himself have experienced sexual temptations?*

*Why would it be hard for James to believe that Jesus was the Messiah?*

*Why did Jesus say, "Who is my mother, and who are my brothers? Then, pointing to his disciples, say, "Here are my mother and my brothers." Matthew 12:48,49*

*How did these experiences prepare James for leadership?*

*Do you think this constituted the some of the suffering he wrote about in his epistle?*

*How does pride often keep us from seeing and following the truth?*

*We seem to have an innate desire for approval and recognition: Is it God-given?*

*What are ways that it can go wrong?*

*What are ways that it can be right?*