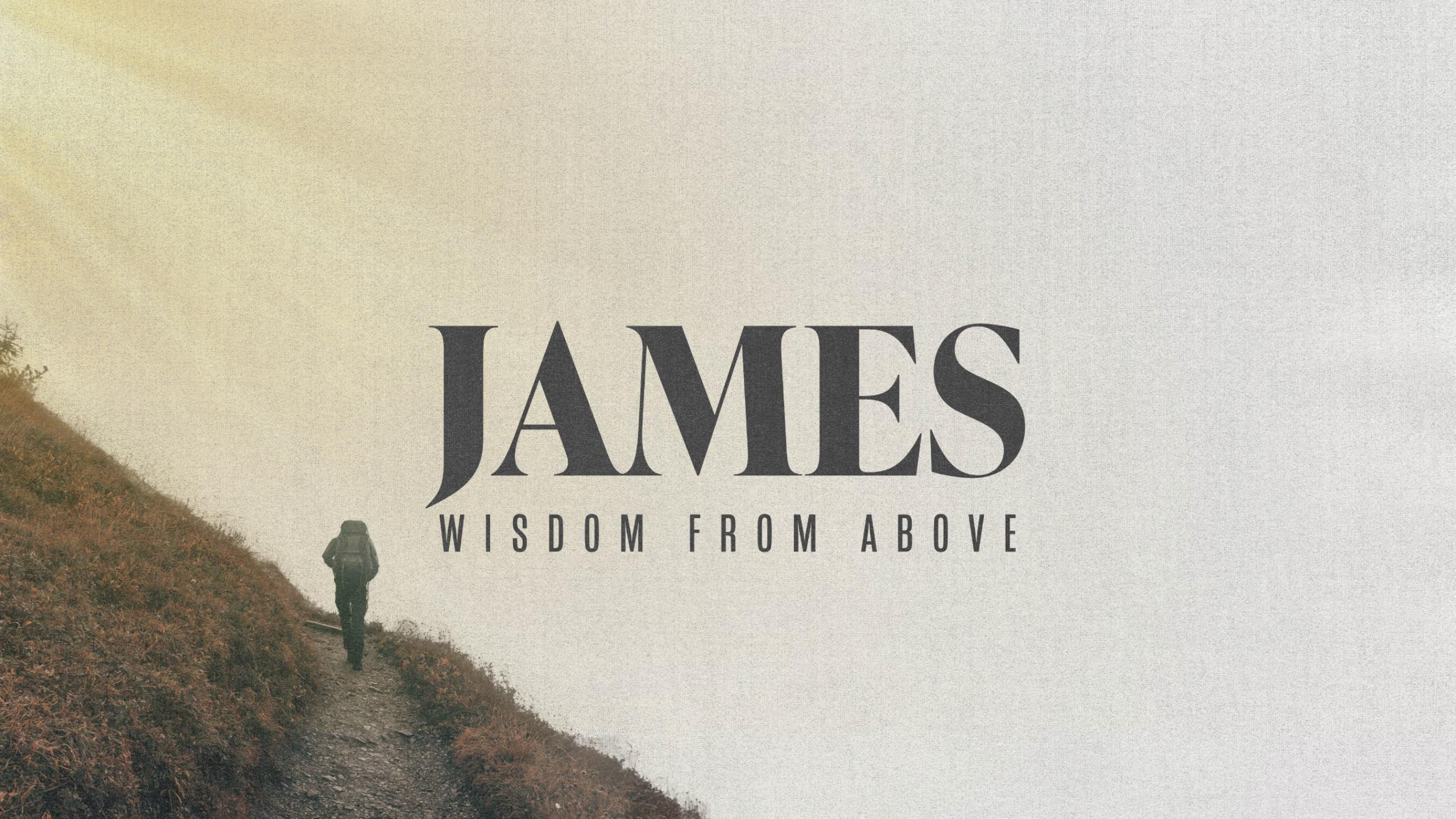


A hiker with a large backpack is walking away on a narrow dirt path that winds along a steep, grassy mountain slope. The hiker is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the frame. The background is a vast, hazy mountain landscape under a soft, golden light, suggesting dawn or dusk. The overall mood is one of solitude and adventure.

JAMIES

WISDOM FROM ABOVE

Living Faith

JAMES 2:14-26



James 2:14-26

MAIN IDEA: Because living faith is the result of new birth, it will necessarily exhibit signs of new life.

- Comparative Tension
- Contextual Clarifications
- Complementary Resolution



Comparative Tension

James

“You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone.” (James 2:24)

Paul

“We know that a person is not justified by works of the law, but through faith in Jesus Christ.” (Gal. 2:14)



Contextual Clarifications

1) Different pastoral questions are addressed

- Professed faith – compassionate acts = dead faith (14-17)

2) Different focus because James presumes faith

- Theological knowledge – good works = dead faith (18-20)

3) Different use of 'works' with respect to faith

- Trusting God + difficult obedience = living faith (21-24)

4) Different meanings of the word 'justified' are used

- Believing in God + serving his people = living faith (25-26)



Kevin DeYoung

“James does not want faith to be supplanted by works or even supplemented by works. He wants faith to be demonstrated by works.”



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