



**Tried and  
tested**

**James 1:1-18**

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James 1:1-18, NIV

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:  
Greetings.

<sup>2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever  
you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that  
the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let  
perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature  
and complete, not lacking anything. <sup>5</sup> If any of you lacks  
wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all  
without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

<sup>6</sup> But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. <sup>7</sup> That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

<sup>9</sup> Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. <sup>10</sup> But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. <sup>11</sup> For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

<sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

<sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

<sup>16</sup> Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

<sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

# **Trials happen**

- Old Testament examples
  - Abraham
  - Job

# **Trials happen**

- Old Testament examples
- New Testament experience
  - Persecution (2:6,7)
  - Poverty (1:9-11)
  - Temptation (1:13-15)

# **Trials happen**

- Old Testament examples
- New Testament experience
- Our experience
  - Many and varied

Doubts

Temptation

Health

Employment

Opposition

Family

Ageing

Money

Bereavement

# Responding to trials

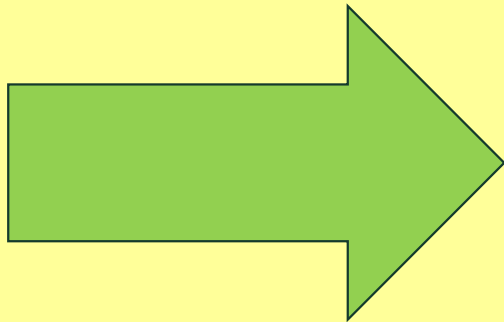
- Joy
- Wisdom
- Prayer
- Faith/Trust
- Perseverance

The apostle Paul wrote, "The joy of the Christian is a joy that is not dependent on the circumstances of life. It is a joy that is based on the knowledge of God's love for us and the promise of eternal life. It is a joy that is not easily shaken by the trials of this world. It is a joy that is based on the faith that God will work all things out for the good of those who love Him." (Romans 12:12)





# The outcome of trials



**Maturing character**

**Growing faith**

**Great blessing**

**Crown of life**

There is no one who has suffered such trials as the proven genuineness of your faith of greater worth than gold, which purifies even though refined by fire and, though refined by fire, it produces righteousness and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

*Romans 5:3,4*

*1 Peter 1:7*

