



**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.

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ 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.

⁶ 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. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

⁹ Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. ¹⁰ But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. ¹¹ 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.

¹² 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.

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

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

¹⁶ Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ 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

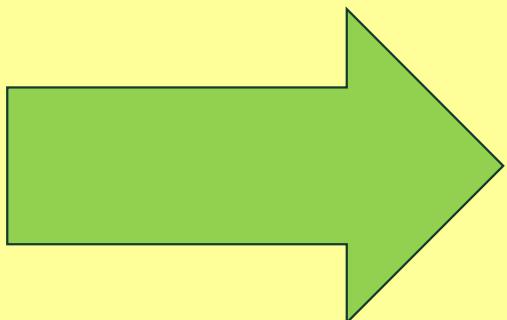
Responding to trials

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

“That is why we fight trials,”
said Jesus, “so that we may be strong for a
little while, and then, in that endeavour
and through the trials, we may be strong
in the love of Jesus. Go then with all
your heart, soul and mind, and with all
your strength, to the trials that are before
you, and you will be strong.”



The outcome of trials



**Maturing character
Growing faith
Great blessing
Crown of life**

These trials prove that the proving and suffering of your faith cause greater growth than gold, which perishes even though refined; perseverance, resulting in reward, character, and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Romans 5:3,4

1 Peter 1:7

