

“A Study in James”

Text: James 1:1-3

James 1:1-3 – “From James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. To all of God’s people who are scattered everywhere in the world: Greetings. ² My brothers and sisters, when you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy, ³ because you know that these troubles test your faith, and this will give you patience.

1. Our “desire” to _____ God should _____ as our “desire” to _____ should _____ with daily practice. We become less and less and God becomes more and more.

2. Thoughts about servants:

- A. Every Christian is to be _____ servant.
- B. A servant lives in complete _____ on his master and remains _____ to Him in everything.
- C. _____ of Christ should live as God’s servants.
- D. No matter how much authority we are given in this life, we _____.
- E. Whatever authority we have belongs not to us, but to _____.

vvs. 2-3: **My brothers and sisters, when you have many kinds of troubles, you should be full of joy, ³ because you know that these troubles test your faith, and this will give you patience.”**

3. James encourages his readers to _____ the way we look at trials and troubles. He calls believers to develop a new and _____ attitude that considers trials/troubles from _____ perspective.

4. Trials/troubles have the potential of producing something _____ in us, and, for this reason, they are an opportunity for _____ joy.

5. Even though joy is _____ to our normal reaction, James urges us to work on _____ our attitude toward troubles from dread to positive expectation, faith, trust, and even joy.

6. Christians can consider troubles with joy because God's _____ and _____ can turn even the evil that others do against us, and the evil we do ourselves towards _____.

Genesis 50:20 says: "You meant to hurt me, but God turned your evil into good to save the lives of many people, which is being done."

7. Because of God's _____ and _____, suffering does not have to result in utter destruction or defeat.

Romans 8:18 – "The sufferings we have now are nothing compared to the great glory that will be shown to us."

8. Earthly wisdom looks at the _____ and so it _____ the value of steadfastness and endurance. It pushes impatience and the now or never syndrome.

9. James explains that God intends trials to _____ our faith and produce spiritual _____.

10. If we were to walk through life on easy street and never face hardship, our Christian character would remain _____ and _____.

11. Trials/troubles develop our _____, giving us the stamina and endurance to stay the course.

12. Trials/troubles can make us _____ or _____.

13. Trials/troubles _____ what we truly value.

Romans 5:2–5 says: "Who through our faith has brought us into that blessing of God's grace that we now enjoy. And we are happy because of the hope we have of sharing God's glory. ³ We also have joy with our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience. ⁴ And patience produces character, and character produces hope. ⁵ And this hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out his love to fill our hearts. He gave us his love through the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to us."

14. We can count it all joy in trials because in them we learn to _____ on God and _____ Him.

15. Faith that is tested becomes _____ faith, _____ faith,
_____ faith.

1 Peter 1:6–7 states: “⁶ This makes you very happy, even though now for a short time different kinds of troubles may make you sad. ⁷ These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure. This purity of faith is worth more than gold, which can be proved to be pure by fire but will ruin. But the purity of your faith will bring you praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is shown to you.”

Conclusion:

