

**“WHO ARE YOU COUNTING ON IN THE TRIALS OF LIFE?”
(James 1:1-4)**

I. HOW TO RESPOND BY FAITH TO THE TRIALS OF LIFE (James 1:1-4)

A. The PERSON of JAMES... “James” 1:1a

1. James is the _____ of Jesus Christ.

*Who must James be distinguished from?

2. James apparently didn’t get saved until _____ Christ’s resurrection.

*What can you learn from this?

B. The POSTURE of JAMES... “a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ” 1:1b

1. The word “bondservant” (doulos) literally means a _____ involving _____ and _____.

2. The direction of James’ service was to _____ and _____.

C. The PEOPLE of JAMES... “to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.”

1. The *recipients* of this epistle were _____ in Christ.

*How do we know this?

2. The *reason* for them being “scattered abroad” was initially _____.

3. The *response* needed at the outset of a trial is to “_____.”

D. The PREACHING of JAMES.

1. His *style* was _____, _____, and _____.

2. **His *epistle* must be properly applied in light of _____**
_____, especially through the Apostle Paul.

E. The REALITY of TRIALS. (1:2)

1. **Trials refer to the _____, _____,**
_____, and _____ that you face in life.

*What is the difference between trials and temptations?

2. **Trials happen to _____ ... “my brethren”**
3. **Trials are _____ ... “when you fall into”**
4. **Trials are of _____ varieties... “various trials”**

*What is the difference between your trials and those of an unbeliever?

F. The REASONS for TRIALS. (1:3-4)

1. **Trials are designed by God to _____ . (1:3a)**

*What is tried in your trials?

*Why is this trying needed?

2. **Trials are designed by God to _____ . (1:3b-4a)**

*Since quitting the trial will not produce this, what are you to do?

3. **Trials are designed by God to _____ . (1:4b)**

*In light of these biblical truths, how are you to respond in your trials?