

How is the Believer to Respond to Trials? **James 1:1-12**

The Outline of the Book of James – The Marks of a Mature Believer


The Introduction of James (1:1)

- **The Author** (1:1a) – “James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ”
Who is James? (Mark 6:3-4; John 7:1-5; Acts 11:14; 1 Cor. 15:3-7)
- **The Audience** (1:1b) – “To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.”

Trials from Without (1:2-12)

A. The Appropriate Response to Tests (1:2-8)

1. _____ – A Deliberate Settled Conviction (1:2)

 James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,



Count

(Phil 3:7-8; Heb 11:11,26)

What is Joy, and what is it not?



Joy



Three simple facts about Trials are revealed from verse 2 –

- _____ for all believers – “when”
- _____ – “you fall”
- _____ – “into various trials”

2. _____ – A Determined Sought Out Understanding (1:3)

 James 1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.



Know



Produces

 **Positively**

(Rom 5:3; 2 Cor. 4:17; 2 Cor. 5:5)

 **Negatively**

(Rom 4:15; 7:8; James 1:20)




Patience



Trials are Designed to:


- _____
- _____
- _____

3. _____ – A Dependent Submissive Will (1:4)

 James 1:4 But let patience have *its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.*


 **Perfect**

4. _____ – A Deepened Spiritual Relationship (1:5)

 James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

What is Wisdom, and how does it differ from knowledge?


 **Wisdom**

 *How can this principle be applied to you?*


I must recognize _____ (vs. 5a)

I must recognize _____ (vs. 5b)


a. The Condition for Obtaining Wisdom (1:6a)– _____

 Jas 1:6a But let him ask in faith, with no doubting

b. The Consequences for Lack of Faith - _____ (1:6b-8)– “*Unstable in all his ways*”

 Jas 1:6b-8 ...for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. (7) For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; (8) He is a double-minded, unstable in all his ways.

B. The Appropriate Evaluation of Tests (1:9-10)


 Jas 1:9-11 Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, (10) but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. (11) For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.

The Poor Man (Col. 3:1-3)

The Rich Man (Jer. 9:23-24)

How will you evaluate the situation when you face a trial in your life?

C. The Appropriate Reward of Tests (1:12)

 Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.