

## James 1:2-3 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3] because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

## 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. [7] These have come so that your faith - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

## 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NLT)

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. [4] He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others...

## 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NLT)

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. [4] He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others...

**We BELIEVE that...**  
**Facing Trials and**  
**Temptation is NORMAL**

**2 Corinthians 12:7-10**

**TRIALS-** Difficulty, Hardship, Testing

**TEMPTATION-** an opportunity  
presented to **SIN**

→ We Live in a **SINFUL FALLEN** World

Romans 8:20-21 (NIV)

For the **creation** was **SUBJECTED** to **FRUSTRATION**, not by its own choice, but by the will of the **one** who **subjected** it, in hope that **the creation** itself will be liberated from its **BONDAGE** to **DECAY** and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God

Genesis 3:17-18 (NIV)

...**CURSED** is the ground because of **you**;  
through **painful toil** you will eat of it all the  
days of your life. [18] It will produce **thorns**  
and **thistles** for you, and you will eat the  
plants of the field.



## → **TEMPTATION** from Satan

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NLT) **Stay alert!** Watch out for your **GREAT ENEMY**, the **DEVIL**.

He prowls around like a **roaring lion**, looking for **someone to devour**. **Stand firm against him**, and **be strong** in your **faith**.

Remember that your Christian brothers and sisters all over the world are going through the same kind of suffering you are.

## → **PERSONAL Sin - Sin of OTHERS**

1 Corinthians 11:29-30 (NLT)

For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without **HONORING** the body of **Christ**, you are eating and drinking God's **JUDGMENT** upon yourself. [30] That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died.

2 Samuel 24:2 (NIV)

**So the king said to Joab** and the army commanders with him, "Go throughout the tribes of Israel from Dan to Beersheba and **enroll the fighting men**, so that I may know how many there are."

## → **TESTING** from God

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

In this you greatly rejoice, though **now for a little while** you may have **had to suffer grief** in all kinds of **trials**. [7] These have come **SO THAT YOUR FAITH** - of **greater worth** than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - **may be proved GENUINE** and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

James 1:2-3 (NIV)

Consider it **pure JOY**, my brothers,  
whenever you **face TRIALS** of many  
kinds, [3] because **YOU KNOW**  
that the **TESTING** of your **FAITH**  
develops **PERSEVERANCE.**

# CHANGE our FOCUS...

- God **KNOWS ALL** things

Exodus 3:7 (NIV) The LORD said, **I have indeed SEEN** the misery of **MY people** in Egypt. **I have HEARD** them **CRYING** out because of their slave drivers, and **I am CONCERNED** about their **suffering**.

# CHANGE our FOCUS...

- God's **WISDOM** is **Beyond Measure**

Rom. 11:33 (NIV) Oh, the **DEPTH** of the riches  
of the **WISDOM** and **KNOWLEDGE** of God!

How **unsearchable** His judgments, and His  
paths **beyond tracing out!**

# CHANGE our FOCUS...

- God is **FULL** of **COMPASSION**

2 Cor.1:3-4 (NLT) All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **God is our merciful Father and the source of ALL comfort.**

[4] **He comforts us** in ALL our TROUBLES SO THAT **we can comfort others.** When they are troubled, we will be able to give them **the same COMFORT God** has given us.



# CHANGE our FOCUS...

- God has **ALL POWER**

Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV) **God is our REFUGE and STRENGTH**, an **ever-present HELP** in **trouble**. [2] Therefore **we will not FEAR**, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, [3] though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

# We can RESPOND to TRIALS by...

- Seeking **HELP** and **STRENGTH** in God's **WORD**

Ps. 119:28 (NLT) I weep with **sorrow**;  
**ENCOURAGE** me by Your **WORD**.

Ps. 119:61 (NLT) **Evil people TRY** to drag me  
into **sin**, but I am firmly **ANCHORED** to your  
**INSTRUCTIONS**.

# We can RESPOND to TRIALS by...

- EMBRACING Weakness

2 Cor. 12:7-10 (NIV) ...there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. [9] ...My GRACE is sufficient for you, for MY POWER is made perfect in weakness... [10] ...I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For **when I am weak, THEN I am strong.**

# We can **RESPOND** to **TRIALS** by...

- Using **THEM** as **OPPORTUNITIES**

Philip. 1:12-14 (NIV) ...**what has happened to me has really SERVED to advance the GOSPEL.**

[13] ...it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard\_and to everyone else that **I am in chains for Christ.** [14] Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged **to speak the WORD of God more COURAGEOUSLY and FEARLESSLY.**

## We can **RESPOND** to **TRIALS** by...

- **Focusing on the FUTURE**

Rom. 8:18 (NIV) I consider that **our present sufferings** are **NOT worth comparing** with the **GLORY** that will be **REVEALED** in **US**.

# TRIUMPHING over TEMPTATION...

- **RUN**- Seek the **ESCAPE** God Promised

1 Cor.10:13 (NIV) No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And **God is FAITHFUL**; He will **NOT** let you be **tempted beyond what you can bear**. But when you are tempted, **He will also provide a way out** so that you can stand up under it.

# TRIUMPHING over TEMPTATION...

- **CONSIDER**- yourself DEAD to sin

Rom. 6:11-12 (NLT) So you also should

**CONSIDER** yourselves to be **DEAD** to the power of sin and **alive to God through Christ Jesus**. [12] Do **NOT** let **sin control** the way you live; do not give in to **sinful** desires.

# TRIUMPHING over TEMPTATION...

- **PRESENT**- GIVE Yourself **FULLY** to God

Rom. 6:13 (NLT) **Do not** let any **part** of your body become an **instrument of evil** to serve sin. **INSTEAD**, **GIVE yourselves completely to God**, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So **use your whole body as an instrument to DO** what is **RIGHT** for the **glory of God**.



# TRIUMPHING over TEMPTATION...

- **RESIST**- stand Firm **AGAINST** Satan

Jam. 4:7 (NET) So **SUBMIT** to God. But **RESIST** the devil and he will flee from you.

# WHEN we FALL...

- RUN - BACK to God

1 Jn.2:1 (NLT) My dear children, I am writing this to you so that you **WILL NOT** sin.

But **IF** anyone **DOES** sin, we have an **ADVOCATE** who pleads our case before the Father. He is Jesus Christ, the one who is truly righteous.

# WHEN we FALL...

- **CONFESS** - call **IT** what it is **SIN**

Ps. 51:3-4, 14 (NLT) For **I recognize MY REBELLION**; it haunts me day and night. [4] **Against YOU**, and You alone, **HAVE I SINNED**; I have **DONE what is EVIL** in Your sight. You will be proved right in what You say, and **YOUR judgment against me is JUST**. ...[14] **FORGIVE me for shedding blood**, O God who saves...

# WHEN we FALL...

- **ACCEPT** - God's Forgiveness

1 John 1:9 (NLT) But if we confess our sins to Him, **HE** is **FAITHFUL** and **JUST**

to **FORGIVE** us our sins and to **CLEANSE** us from all **WICKEDNESS**.

## **WHEN we FALL...**

- **REPEAT** - as often as **NECESSARY**

Romans 8:31-32 (NIV)

What, then, shall we say  
in **RESPONSE** to this?

**If God is FOR US,**  
**WHO** can be against us?

[32] **He who did not SPARE his own Son,**  
but **gave Him up** for us all -  
how will He not also, **along WITH Him,**  
graciously **GIVE** us **ALL things**?