

James 1:2-4 (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. [4] Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:5 (NIV)

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.

James 1:12 (NIV)

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

**Learning to
PERSEVERE**

James 1:9-12

Literature- It was the **BEST** of times
- it was the **WORST** of times.

Biblical - When I am **WEAK**
- then I am **STRONG**

PARADOX- is **TRUTH** standing on its **Head**
SHOUTING for **ATTENTION** GK Chesterton

THINK about **life** from
God's perspective
then you will realize
that you **ARE Rich.**

ABegg

Romans 8:15-17 (NIV)

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the **Spirit of sonship**. And by him we cry, **Abba, Father**. [16] The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that **we are God's children**. [17] Now **IF we ARE** children, then **we are HEIRS - heirs of God and CO-HEIRS with Christ**, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

→ It is **NOT** about what you **HAVE** -
it is **ALL** about **WHO** you **ARE**

James 1:9-10 (ESV)

Let the **Lowly** brother **BOAST**
in his **EXALTATION**,
and the **Rich**
in his **HUMILIATION...**

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NLT)

This is what the LORD says: “Don’t let the wise **BOAST** in their wisdom, or the powerful **BOAST** in their power, or the rich **BOAST** in their riches. [24] But those who wish to **BOAST** should **BOAST** in this alone: that they truly **KNOW ME** and understand that **I AM** the **LORD** who demonstrates **unfailing love** and who brings **justice** and **righteousness** to the earth, and that **I delight in these things**.
I, the LORD, have spoken!

→ We are **ALL** the **SAME**
- at the **FOOT** of the **CROSS**

Both **POVERTY** and **RICHES** bring
enormous **PRESSURE** on a person **to focus**
on the world RATHER than on **Christ**. ESVSB

1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NIV)

But **godliness with CONTENTMENT**
is great gain. [7] For we brought
nothing into the world, and **we can**
take nothing out of it. [8] But if we
have food and clothing, **we will be**
CONTENT with that.

→ **NONE** of this is **INSTANT** -
Spiritual Maturity takes **TIME**

James is **speaking against** the **emphasis**
on **INSTANT** results.

The **goals** that he has mentioned so far -

FAITH, ENDURANCE, MATURITY -

ALL sound wonderful if we could only
have them **immediately**. LAC

→ Do I LOVE God?

1 John 4:9-10 (NLT)

God **SHOWED** how much He **LOVED** us by **sending His one and only Son** into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. [10] **This is REAL LOVE** - not that we loved God, **but that He loved us** and **sent His Son** as a **sacrifice** to **take away** our sins.

When Trials and Testing are **HARD Remember...**

A. Murray

- I am here by God's **APPOINTMENT**
- I am **IN** His **KEEPING**
- I am **UNDER** His **TRAINING**
- I am **HERE** for His **TIME**

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, **let us throw off everything that hinders** and the **sin that so easily entangles**, and let us **RUN** with **PERSEVERANCE** the **race marked out for us.**

Hebrews 12:2-3 (NIV)

Let us **fix our eyes on Jesus**, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him **endured the cross**, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. [3] **Consider Him** who endured such opposition from sinful men, **SO THAT you will not grow WEARY and LOSE heart.**

I've had many tears and sorrows,
I've had questions about tomorrow,
there's been times I didn't know
right from wrong.

But in every situation,
God gave me blessed consolation,
that my trials come to
only make me strong.

Through it all, through it **all**,
I've learned to **trust** in **Jesus**,
I've learned to **trust** in **God**.

Through it all, through it **all**,
I've learned to **depend** upon
His Word.

I've been to lots of places,
I've seen a lot of faces,
there's been times I felt so all alone.

But in my lonely hours,
yes, those precious lonely hours,

Jesus lets me know
that I was His own

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