

## God's WORD to STUMBLERS ~ James 1:1-8

Scripture Reading- James 1:2-5

### THINK CLEARLY and CAREFULLY ~ James 1:1-4

[1] James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. [2] Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

**2 Timothy 3:12** (NIV) ...everyone who wants to live a godly life... will be persecuted...

The way a believer endures trials in the present shows their HOPE for FUTURE relief. HCSB

[3] because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

**1 Peter 1:7** (NLT) These TRIALS will SHOW that your faith is GENUINE. It is being TESTED as fire TESTS and PURIFIES gold...

[4] Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

### APPLICATION

#### GODLY Responses to Trials... (McDonald)

- TRUST God
- SUBMIT and Learn
- Do Not QUIT

Oh what a happy soul am I Although I cannot see;  
I am resolved that in this world Contended I will be.  
How many blessings I enjoy That other people don't.  
To weep and sigh because I'm blind I cannot and I won't.

Perfect submission perfect delight. Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending bring from above, Echoes of Mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story this is my song praising my Savior All the Day Long

Perfect submission all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

### ASK GOD FOR WISDOM ~ James 1:5-12 (How can we count it All Joy While facing Trials?)

[5] 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.

**WISDOM** a God-given and God-centered understanding help us see our Trials through His eyes

**James 1:5** (JBP) ...if any of you does not know how to meet any particular problem he has only to ask God - who gives generously to all men without making them feel foolish or guilty - and he may be quite sure that the necessary WISDOM will be given him.

[6] But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.

**James 1:6** (JBP) But he must ask in SINCERE FAITH without secret doubts as to whether he really wants God's help or not. The man who TRUSTS God, but with inward reservations, is like a wave of the sea...

[7] That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; [8] he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

**James 1:8** (JBP) ... the life of a man of divided loyalty will reveal INSTABILITY at every turn.

...NOT completely convinced that God's way is best. He treats God's Word like any human advice, and retains the option to disobey. He wavers between commitment to feelings, the world's ideas, and God's commands. LAC

## IMPLICATION

→ God GIVES Generously - with NO STRINGS attached

**Romans 8:32** (NIV) 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?

## APPLICATION

## TAKE AWAY ??

4- Perseverance must FINISH its WORK...

**James 1:2-4** (JBP) When all kinds of trials and temptations crowd into your lives my brothers, don't resent them as intruders, but welcome them as friends! [3] Realize that they come to test your faith and to produce in you the quality of ENDURANCE. [4] But let the process go on until that ENDURANCE is fully DEVELOPED, and you will find you have become men and women of MATURE character...