James 1:2-4 (NLT) Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. [3] For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. [4] So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

James 1:12 (NLT) God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. James 1:19-20 (NLT) Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. [20] Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. James 1:22 (NLT) ...[22] But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.

## Choose JOY and OBEDIENCE

James 1:1-27

## James 1:2-3

Don't be surprised or troubled when you encounter CONFLICT and PAINFUL TRIALS. This is one way your FAITH is TESTED - to see if you will you rely on your own understanding, or TRUST the Lord with ALL your being.

(Paraphrase - JD Small)

James 1:20-22 It's not enough to just HEAR the TRUTH. If you don't let it change your mind... ...God's blessing can only flow into the lives of those who USE His WORD to faithfully examine themselves to "HEAR" what He **SAYS** about them and who **FOLLOW THROUGH** with appropriate **ACTION**.

## James 1:2 (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. WISDOM from God is Needed so that we can EMBRACE Trials

## God will **NOT** shape our **CHARACTER** without our **COOPERATION**.

Wiersbe

TESTING should be welcomed with JOY because of the RESULTS in our lives

Romans 8:28-29 (NIV)

And we know that IN ALL things God works for the GOOD of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. [29] For those God foreknew He also predestined to be CONFORMED to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. If our goal is to KNOW God and to be CONFORMED into His likeness, then we can take JOY in TRIALS because we can KNOW that no matter how tough these trials are, they are moving us toward our goal. D.Platt Romans 15:4 (NIV) For everything that was **written** in the **PAST** was written to **TEACH us**, so that through **ENDURANCE** and the **ENCOURAGEMENT** of the **Scriptures** we might have HOPE.



