

HOW TO FIND CLARITY AND COMFORT IN YOUR TRIALS (James 1:2-4)

I. HOW to RESPOND BY FAITH in the TRIALS You Are Facing. (James 1:1-4)

A. The REALITY of TRIALS. (1:2)

1. Trials refer to the _____ you face in life.

- How does this differ from temptations?

2. Trials happen to _____.... “*My brethren*”. (1:2a)

- Did your trials take your Lord by surprise? (John 16:33)

3. Trials are _____.... “*when you fall into*”. (1:2c)

- Do you know the difference between deserved and undeserved suffering?
- How should you respond when you have caused your trial due to your own sin?

(1) _____ it to the Lord and don't _____ it. (Prov.28:13;
1 John 1:9-10)

(2) Turn to the Lord in _____ to be empowered by the _____
_____ to act in _____ to get things right, not only before
the Lord, but towards _____ as much is possible. (2 Cor.7:9-11)

- Who do you need to remember is with you in your trials and is totally aware of what is happening? (Isaiah 43:1-3; Heb.4:13)

4. Trials are of many _____ ... “*various trials*”. (1:2d)

- What does this consist of?
- How do your trials differ from the unsaved?

(1) Your biggest trial is over – you are not _____!

(2) You have the _____ and His _____ in all your trials; they don't! (John 16:33)

(3) Your trials are _____ (1 Peter 1:6); their trials are _____! (Rev.20:11-15)

B. The REASONS for TRIALS. (1:3-4)

1. Trials are designed by God to _____. (1:3a)

- What is tried in your trials and why is this trying needed?

2. Trials are designed by God to _____. (1:3b-4a)

- What does “patience” mean?
- Since quitting the test will not produce this intended result, what are you to do?

3. Trials are designed by God to _____. (1:4b)

- In light of these biblical truths, how are you to respond in your trials?

1) Openly admit that you are not _____ to handle this trial (though you are responsible to address it), and that your only hope is in the _____. (Psalm 62:1, 2, 5-12; 2 Cor. 3:5)

2) Ask God and honestly evaluate to see if this trial is _____ or _____. (Phil.3:15)

3) _____ - in light of the fact that God is there for you in your trial and how God is seeking to use your trials for good in your life - though they may be exceedingly painful. (James 1:2; Gen. 50:20; Job 23:10; Romans 8:28-29)

4) _____, for “without faith it is impossible to please Him.” (James 1:3; Hebrews 11:6; Job 13:15)

5) Occupy your mind with _____ (Job 23:12) and also _____ each _____ upon the Lord in prayer for He _____ for you, as you remember that “the battle is the Lord’s”. (Phil.4:6-8, 13; 1 Peter 5:7 -10).

- Does God truly care about you and the trials you are going through?
- When you rely on the Lord, does He immediately relieve you of your trials?
 - Psalm 69:1-3; Psalm 27:13-14; Isaiah 40:26-31; 2 Cor.12:7-10
- Will the Lord comfort you IN your trials? (2 Cor.1:3-4, 8-10)
- What will happen if you fail to respond by faith to the Lord in your trials? (Hebrews 3:8 -19; 12:5, 11, 14-15)
 - 1) You will _____ and miss the _____. (3:8-19)
 - 2) You will _____ from God’s correction instead of growing through it. (12:5,11)
 - 3) You will _____ your _____ to others. (12:14)
 - 4) You will _____ the grace of God and become _____. (12:15)