

Turning Trial into Triumph

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James 1:1-8 NIV “James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.”

1) Rejoice -

James 1:1-2 - Acts 8:1,3-4 - Our outlook determines the outcome! - 2 Timothy 3:12 - Job 1:20-21 - *Choosing to rejoice is being able to see God's goodness even when life is hard and messy.*

2) Recognise -

James 1:3 - *So, trials are really working for us, not against us.* - Romans 8:28-29 - 2 Corinthians 4:17 - *Faith is always tested.* - Job 23:10 - 1 Pet 4:12-13 - God has a plan to conform us to the image of His Son Jesus Christ.

3) Remain -

James 1:4 - Trials produce maturity and character. Trials don't last forever. - 1 Peter 5:10 - *Patience is only produced if we submit to God's will. God cannot build our character without our cooperation.* - James 1:12 - James 5:11 - Job 42:10 - Hebrews 2:10

4) Request -

James 1:5 - God wants us to *request* His help in our trials. -However we must also pray the right way. *We must pray in faith.* -James 1:6-8