

Faith That Withstands Testing

James 1:1-4



Counterfeit Faith?

Eternal Consequences

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Book Of James

Identifying Authentic Faith

Trials vs Temptations

**Trials Prepare Us
For Overcoming
Temptations**

James 1:1-4

1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Eight Purposes Of Trials

- 1. To test our faith, revealing our strengths and weaknesses**
- 2. To humble us and remind us that we need Him alone**
- 3. To wean us from the things of this world**
- 4. To turn our eyes to Jesus' return**
- 5. To reveal what we truly love**
Example: Abraham
- 6. To teach us to value God's blessings**
We need to value the things of faith and eternity
- 7. To enable us to help others in their trials**
- 8. To develop strength for the future**
Example: Job

EXPECT TRIALS

I. Find Joy

James 1:2

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;

- A. Joy in the times of difficulty is evidence of genuine faith (Philippians 4:4)**
- B. A command that is not easy**
 - Do we value comfort more than character?**
- C. Fall - To be surrounded by**
 - To have no help in yourself**
- D. Temptations – To prove authenticity**
 - You cannot fake truth**

II. Gain Endurance

James 1:3

**Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh
patience.**

A. Through experience

You know what you know

B. An active, continuing test

**C. By patiently abiding and be brought under the
influence of God**

Ex: David

II. Gain Endurance

Psalm 40:1-4

1 I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.

2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

4 Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

III. Become Mature

James 1:4

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

A. Fully developed (time)

No short cuts to maximum potential

B. Fully equipped (parts)

III. Become Mature

2 Peter 1:3-8

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

III. Become Mature

2 Peter 1:3-8 - continued

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Trials are given to
perfect us so that we
will be effective and
productive in knowing
Christ and serving
His kingdom.**

**We Need To Know
How To Handle Trials**

Seek, Trust, And Submit

