



Essential Trials For Mature Faith

James 1:1-12

- 1) What we learn about ourselves through our trials (1:1-12)
 - a) They determine our love God (Gen 22; Deut 10:12; 13:3; Luke 14:26)
 - b) They test the quality of our faith (Joseph, Moses, Israel, Hezekiah, Job)
 - c) They make us either enemies or slaves of Christ (1:1a)
 - d) They disrupt our lives, forcing us to trust (1b; cf. Matt 6:24; Ex. 2:11-25)
 - e) They cause us to ponder true joy (2)
 - f) They test whether we really trust God (3a)
 - g) They build our endurance to perfection (3b-4)
 - h) They give us occasion to pray for wisdom (5)
 - i) They do not discern between rich & poor (9-11)
 - j) They prove God loves us (Heb 12:5-11)
 - k) They equip us to help others (Luke 22:31-32)
 - l) They test our faith (Heb 11)
 - m) They humble us; show us our control is limited (2 Cor 12:7)
 - n) They cause us to long for heaven (Phil 1:23-24)
 - o) They remind us that in our weakness we are strong (2 Cor 12:7-10)
- 2) What we learn about God through our trials
 - a) He is responsible for all our trials & sufferings
 - b) He is the Source of the wisdom we desperately need
 - c) He is the generous Giver to those who humbly ask
 - d) He is the Judge with the final verdict