

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

BIBLE STUDY

Theme: "The Benefits of Trials"

SCRIPTURE: James 1:1-8, NIV

¹ James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;

⁸ *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

I. Key Words:

- Bondservant
- Trials
- Testing
- Faith
- Patience
- Perfect
- Complete

II. People, Places, & Times:

- James
- Jewish Christians

III. Background:

James 1:1-4 introduces a practical, action-oriented letter written by James, the half-brother of Jesus. Addressed to scattered Jewish Christians facing severe persecution, the passage reframes their suffering as an opportunity to develop steadfast endurance, spiritual maturity, and unshakeable faith.

IV. In Depth:

1. Lesson Emphasis: 1. Rejoicing in Trials (v. 2)

James commands believers to "consider it pure joy" when facing hardships. This is not a demand to be happy about painful circumstances, but a conscious choice to view trials through the lens of what God is accomplishing through them.

2. Lesson Emphasis #2: Building Endurance (v. 3)

The testing of faith produces steadfastness (or perseverance). It transforms a shallow faith into an enduring faith.

3. Lesson Emphasis #3: Spiritual Maturity (v. 4)

The ultimate goal of this perseverance is to make believers "perfect and complete, lacking nothing". It is the process of being fully developed in Christ-like character.

V. Make It Happen

1. What are some to the benefits of trials?
2. Who does James address his letters too?
3. How should we view life in the midst of trials?
4. According to verse 3 what does life's test do for you?
5. What is the ultimate goal of life adversities and challenges?

VI. Follow the Spirit:

What will you do as a result of this lesson?
