

(James 1:1) James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

(James 1:2-4) **Consider it all joy**, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the **testing of your faith** produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Key thought #1: Our aim is not the _____ from testing but a correct _____ in the midst of the testing.

1. There are _____ as the result of temptations.

(Romans 6:23) For the wages of sin is death, but the gracious gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(James 1:13-15) No one is to say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it has run its course, brings forth death.

2. There are _____ as the result of trials.

(John 16:33 NIV) (Jesus) I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

(Romans 5:3 NLT) We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance.

3. There is _____ in the testing of both.

(Romans 5:4-5 NLT) And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.

(James 1:12) Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Key thought #2: We follow what we _____ and not what we _____.

(James 1:5) But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

--- When we are tested ---

- **The enemy wants you to _____ God.**
- **The enemy wants you to _____ God.**
- **The enemy wants you to _____ God.**

--- Consider it all joy ---

✓ **Remember His _____.**

(James 1:16-18) Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters. Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. In the exercise of His will He gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

✓ **Receive His _____.**

(James 1:21) Therefore, ridding yourselves of all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

✓ **Regain strength through His _____.**

(James 1:22-25) But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who has looked intently at the perfect law, the law of freedom, and has continued in it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an active doer, this person will be blessed in what he does.