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# Family

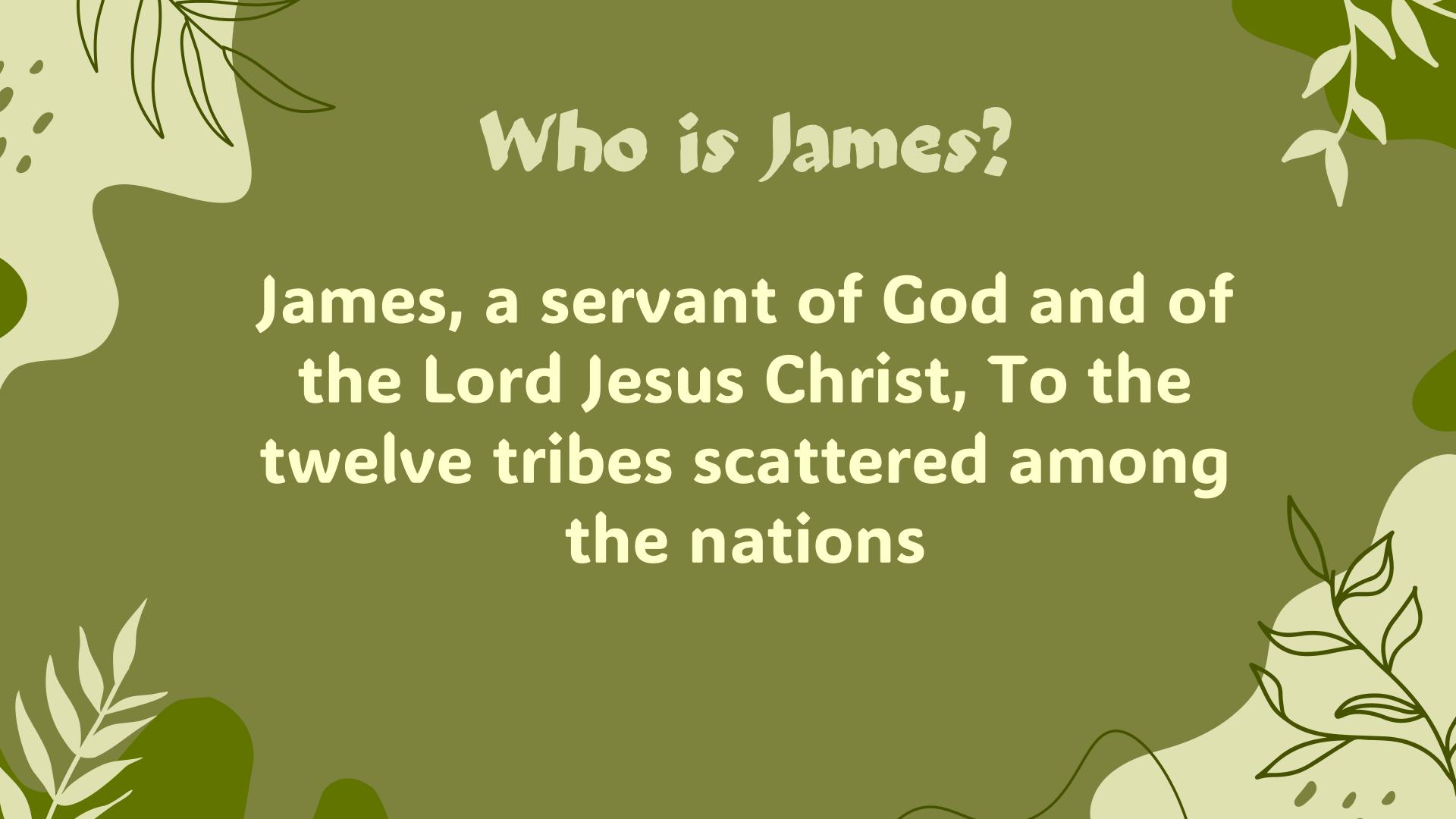
#### How to Thrive in Tough Times

Can anyone relate??



### James 1:1-4

1 - James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. 2 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 - because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 - Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.



He doesn't claim to be Jesus' near relation or even one of Jesus' apostles, rather a slave of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now, that's humility! He actually had quite a bit to boast about if he had wanted to

#### Let's look at James Salutation

James 1:1

Greetings in the Greek word chairein, which carries a deeper meaning than a simple hello; it's an invitation to rejoice.

Have you ever found yourself in the middle of a challenging situation and wondered, Why is this happening to me?

James 1:2

. 2 - Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds

"Simply put, Biblical joy is choosing to respond to external circumstances with inner contentment and satisfaction because we know that God will use these experiences to accomplish His work in and through our lives," writes Mel Walker for Christinaity.com.

3 -- because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

James is telling us that we should find joy not because what we are going through is easy but because we know that God is producing something good in us!!

4 -Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

God does not just send us into these trials alone – He goes with us and before us God will not abandon us – He is with us through it all!

Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV. The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

1 Chronicles 28:20 is King David's encouragement to his son Solomon to be strong, courageous, and not discouraged, because the Lord God would be with him, not leaving or forsaking him, until the entire work of building the Temple was finished

Ephesians 2:10: "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do". This verse explains that good works are not a way to earn salvation but a natural result of God's transformative work within us, creating us for a purpose of good deeds.

Through our trials God is teaching us something

It might be immediate -- It might not be

You might get it the first time --You might not

There is no pain without purpose

Everytime we face a trial forces use back into the arms of Jesus

Our actions reveal our faith