

## **This Is A Test. This Is Only A Test**

By Pastor Lee Allen Jenkins

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*Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials,<sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

*<sup>4</sup> And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.*

**James 1:2-4 (NASB)**

*Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials...*

**James 1:2 (NASB)**

### **Why Does God Cause or Permit Trials?**

#### **When We Are In A Trial, What Should Our Response Be?**

#### **Why Does God Cause or Permit Trials?**

##### **1. To test our FAITH.**

*Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials,<sup>3</sup> knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.*

**James 1:2-3 (NASB)**

*So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. <sup>7</sup>These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. **1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)***

**Trials are the launching pad for your next level of spiritual growth.**

##### **2. To increase our ENDURANCE.**

*...Knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. <sup>4</sup> And let endurance have its perfect result... **James 1:3-4a (NASB)***

##### **3. To achieve our SPIRITUAL MATURITY.**

*And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. **James 1:4b (NASB)***

## What Should Be Our Response in A Trial?

- **BE JOYFUL!**

*Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials...*

**James 1:2 (NASB)**

- **ASK FOR WISDOM.**

*If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and He will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. James 1:5 (NLT)*

- **FOCUS ON THE REWARD.**

*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.*

**James 1:12 (NIV)**

