

POWER FOR THE PROCESS

1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings. 2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. 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. 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. James 1:1-8 NASB

V1 James (the brother of Jesus)

Bond servant (slave)

"Consider it nothing but joy". (Weymouth)

V2 When you - "Consider it wholly joyful, my brethren, whenever you are enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations" (James 1:2 AMPC) – enveloped in or encounter trials of any sort or fall into various temptations.

- **The same root word for trials here is used for the word tempted in James 1:13.**
 - **Various trials...trials of every sort. Knox**
 - **Surrounded by various temptations...Weymouth**
 - **...Testings and temptations. N. T. Transline**
 - **Trials were things coming from 'the outside' – temptations – more of an inner struggle.**
 - **Notice who wrote this...James, the brother of Jesus...can you imagine the 'trials' and/or temptations that he dealt with.**
 - **Also notice that it doesn't refer here to a trial or a temptation...the concept here is 'various trials, temptation of every sort, the words are plural – more than just one thing to deal with.**
- **Various trials (for example)**
 - **Trials that we caused or help create...**
 - **Trials/temptations that someone else is responsible for.**
 - **Trials/temptations that are a family matter.**
 - **Trials/temptations that threaten your finances.**
 - **Trials/temptations that threaten the solidarity of your church family...or troubles caused by people in your church family.**

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- ***Trials/temptations that oppose your capacity to obey the will of God or the Word of God.***
- ***Trials, testing/temptations that are in opposition to the safety and security to your home or your homeland.***
- ***Trials, testing/temptations that demand answers and responses to problems that you have never faced before...***
- ***Trials, testing/temptations that are caused by physical or mental health challenges.***
- ***Trials, testing/temptations that present evil as good and the good way as evil and undesirable.***
- ***These various trials, testings, and temptations require a response...what do we do?***
 - ***James tells us to 'consider it joy!' because your faith is being proof-tested; freshly improved and approved. (v3)***
 - ***The trials, testings, and temptations produce patience, endurance, and breeds fortitude.***

But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing. James 1:4 AMPC

- ***Let endurance, steadfastness, and patience do a thorough work (AMPC)***
- ***"...So you can be fully developed and perfectly equipped." Williams v4)***
- ***But if you lack wisdom (concerning the trials, testings, or temptations, or your maturation in the process, just ask God for wisdom. (v5)***
- ***"He gives wisdom with an open hand." Weymouth***
- ***"He gives freely to everyone without reproaches." TCNT (v5)***
- ***We need to ask in faith...ask with confidence... 'not divided in the mind', not wavering, not disputing with oneself. Transline NT (v6)***

⁷ For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord, ⁸ [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides]. James 1:7-8 AMPC

- ***Being double-minded makes you half-hearted!***

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¹¹ Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; unite my heart to fear Your name. ¹² I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and will glorify Your name forever. ¹³ For Your lovingkindness toward me is great, and You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol. Psalm 86:11-13 NASB