

GROW UP
"Hanging Tough in Trials"
James 1:1-12

INTRODUCTION:

1. **Matthew 5:48**

a) "**perfect**" - having reached its end. To be finished, complete, perfect.

2. Trials in life always seem to come when you least expect it.

THREE THINGS WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TRIALS

I. THE GUARANTEE OF TRIALS

1. **James 1:1-2**

a) "*Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds.*"

1) "**when**" - Not IF!

2. Trials are **inescapable**!!!!

3. **John 16:33**

4. **James 1:2**

a) "**trials**" - when you meet Trouble, difficulties, temptation

1) It is a broad word that means multi-colored.

b) Examples of Trials

1) **Physical trials**

2) **Emotional trials**

3) **Financial trials**

4) **Family**

5. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Trials are **unavoidable**!!!

II. THE REASON FOR TRIALS

1. Trials are real!!!!

2. Knowing the purpose for trials is **critical**.

3. The problem is that we face trials and don't know why.

A. TO SEE IF YOU ARE COMMITTING PERJURY

1. God places trials in our path to test our faith.
2. Trials test our hearts to reveal what's there.
3. Trials put you on the witness stand.
4. *1 Peter 1:6-7*
5. *Job 13:15*

B. TO INCREASE OUR STAMINA

1. Vs 3
 - a) "*steadfastness*" - Trials produce durability, maturity, determination and endurance.
 - 1) "*steadfastness*" means to "*remain under*" - to stay in the trial until its purpose is accomplished.
2. Trials are the resistance that helps us grow spiritually. No pain...no gain.

C. REASON #3 - TO GET US TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY

1. Vs 4
 - a) "*that you may be perfect and complete*"
2. *Romans 8:29*
3. *Ephesians 4:13*

III. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS TRIALS

A. WITH JOY

1. Vs 2
 - a) "*count*" - NOT FEEL!!!
 - 1) This is an accounting term meaning - "*to evaluate*" "*to consider*"
2. *There are times when things in life just don't add up!!!*
3. *Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 12:1-2*

B. ASK FOR WISDOM

1. Vs 5a

a) *"If anyone lacks wisdom...let him ask God"*

2. Why do we need wisdom?

a) Because there you are in the trial of your life that is stressful and painful, and you are to be joyful.

b) How do we *"consider it all joy"* when you are hurting?

1) We will need to ask God to show us His PLAN and HAND in this trial.

3. Vs 5b

a) *"who gives generously to all without reproach"*

b) *"and it will be given to him"*

4. 1 Corinthians 10:13

5. Vs 6-8

a) A doubleminded man is a Christian with a split personality.

C. PRAISE THE LORD

1. Vs 9-11

2. James lists 2 common trials:

a) The poor person who cannot make ends meet.

b) AND the rich person who runs into something money cannot buy.

3. God says, *"Glory in your humility"*.

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 12

a) the *Crown of Life*.

3. Vs 12b

a) *"which God has promised to those who LOVE Him."*

1) Trusting God through our trials causes us to love Him more.

b) That is why He allows things in our life, so we cling to Him and love Him more.