



Growing Strong through Every Struggle – Part II
James 1:1-8,12

James 1:1-8,12 (NIV)

“James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do. ...Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

I. The Reality of Trials

- They are *Unavoidable*
- They are *Unexpected*
- They are *Unpredictable*

II. The Reasons for Trials

- Trials Prove our Faith
- Trials Produce Endurance
- Trials Perfect our Character

III. The Response to Trials

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

- The Attitude of Joy

- The Action of Prayer

Verse 5-8 – If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

IV. The Reward of Trials

Verse 12 – “Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.”

Psalm 48:14 (NKJV)

“For this is God, Our God forever and ever, He will be our guide even to death.”