

JAMES

Lesson 2: The Right and Proper Response to Trials and Tribulations (Part 1)

22 November 2019

Trial: A situation that the Lord allows you to go through to teach you or to strengthen you.

Temptation: Something that attempts to lead you astray and take you away from the Lord and from the path of obedience (if you were to fall into the temptation).

Vs 2 Notice James says, “**When**” (not “if”) **ye fall into divers temptations**. You will certainly have trials (difficult times) in your Christian life.

When ye fall INTO various temptations you can count it all joy. You are presented with an opportunity to do the right thing and claim the victory.

If you fall IN temptation, you have failed the test, given-in to your flesh, and damaged your testimony.

Vss 3-4 This is the conclusion of verse number 2. —We don’t rejoice because we find ourselves in a bad situation. We rejoice because we know that God has a purpose for the trial (perfect work) and if we look to Him throughout the trial, we can come out a better Christian at the end. We count it joy that God is working to perfect us through the trial.

There are spiritual graces and perfections that the Christian can never attain without trials. That’s why the Lord never promised us a trouble-free life.

SIMILAR PASSAGES IN THE BIBLE

Rom 5:1-5 We (born-again believers with a right relationship with God) GLORY in tribulations. Why? Because the tribulation works in us to produce many good fruits that can benefit others. Bible reading and church attendance cannot produce it; you need the experience of going through the hardship yourself. If you want to be like Jesus, you’ll have to walk in His footsteps.

2 Cor 1:3-4 God comforts us IN all our tribulations. He doesn’t take us OUT of them. Why? —To make us better able to comfort others when they go through the same sort of trouble.

Tribulations enable us to make real application of God’s holy scriptures. You’re not just quoting Bible verses, you’re able to be a greater help to someone because you lived the Bible verses—and God was right there comforting you the whole time.

Prosperity, health and wealth preaching is unbiblical. It causes people to quit on God because God didn’t do what the preacher said He would do, so they think God lied, when actually the preacher lied. God clearly tells us trials and tribulations will come our way.

Heb 12:5-11 This passage promises that God will correct His children when they need it. The Lord's chastening is proof that we are a child of God. He is a loving Father who chastens us for our profit (vs 10) because He wants us to partake of His holiness. We don't like chastening, but we can have peace in it, knowing that it is the care and love of God, not the wrath of God, and it will benefit us in the end.

John 16:33 In Jesus Christ I have peace (that's my standing). In the world I SHALL have tribulation (that's my state). The key to being of good cheer is to make Jesus Christ more real in our lives so that whatever situation the world throws our way, we can look beyond it to the promises of the Lord.

Acts 14:21-22 Paul told the believers to (1) continue in the faith, and (2) we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. We must expect that we'll face much tribulation between now and the time we are perfected. Remembering that will help you not to doubt your salvation or your right relationship to the Lord.

Tribulations are not proof that you're lost or that God is angry with you.

1 Pet 4:12-13 When you find yourself in a fiery trial, don't think it strange. Be prepared; it is coming. Instead, rejoice that you can be a partaker of Christ's suffering and be glad to see Him at the Judgment Seat of Christ.
