

Count it all Joy

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Gray

Introduction

1. James 1:2-8
2. The passage says “when” not “if” everyone will undergo trials John 16:33; 2 Timothy 3:12; Job 3:26; 5:6-7; 14:1
 - a. There are three kinds of people in the world
 - i. Those who are beginning a trial
 - ii. Those who are in the middle of a trial
 - iii. Those who are coming out of a trial
 - b. In this book there are problems mentioned
 - i. A brother of low degree 1:9
 - ii. Widows and fatherless 1:27
 - iii. Oppressed 2:6
 - iv. Naked and destitute of food 2:15
 - v. Problems with the tongue 3
 - vi. Wars 4:1
 - vii. Miseries of the rich 5:1
 - viii. Defraud 5:4
 - ix. Afflicted 5:10
 - x. Sickness 5:14
 - xi. What then are we to do when trouble comes?
 - xii. There could be great blessings within these great calamities
 - xiii. Let us notice how a Christian must respond when trouble comes

II Discussion

1. Positively 1:2
 - a. Count it all joy this is not a natural response so we must learn
 - b. The apostle responded with joy Acts 5:41; 16:25
 - c. We are told to count it all joy and to glorify God when we suffer as a Christian 1 Peter 4:16
2. Patiently 1:3-4
 - a. We are in need of patience Hebrews 10:36
 - b. We are to run the race with patience Hebrews 12:2
 - c. It is a part of the fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22
 - d. It is an attribute that we are to add to our lives 2 Peter 1:5-6
 - e. James uses Job as an example of patience 5:10-11
 - f. Patience produces the mature Christian 1:4
3. Prayerfully 1:5
 - a. We may not have the wisdom to respond to the trials of life correctly, so the Christian is to ask God.
 - b. When asked God will give liberally
 - c. How often do you pray? 1 Thessalonians 5:17
 - d. How do you ask God? Verse 6 in faith nothing wavering; his mind is fixed
4. Perceptively 1:9-11
 - a. Two brothers are mentioned here one rich the other is depressed in feelings
 - b. Both need the proper perspective because all shall pass away 1:10-11
 - c. The Lord is the Marker of them both Job 34:19; Proverbs 22:2 and both shall stand before God 2 Corinthians 5:10
5. Perseveringly 1:12
 - a. He must stay with it for heaven is surely worth it all
 - b. Outlook determines outcome

c. A joyful attitude, an understanding mind, a surrendered will and a believing heart are necessary for a proper outlook

d. A faith that is not tested cannot be trusted!

III Conclusion

- i. When a person has responded to the trials of life in a positive, patiently, prayerfully, perceptively way to the problems of life, then that will surely help him respond perseveringly
- ii. Are you a Christian? How can you react to the problems of life in a positive, patiently, prayerfully and with proper perceptive way?
- iii. Be a Christian and be all that you can be
- iv. Have you fallen, let us get back up and be persistent in our pursuit of the crown of life

Sources: Bob Spurlin the horizontal preacher; The man who has faith, studies in James by Winfred Clark and Wayne Dunaway; God's Good Gift sermon outlines from James by Tom Holland; Great Lessons from Hebrews and James by Andrew Connally