

Profiting from Trials
James 1:1-8

Main Point:

As you go through various trials, seek God's wisdom so that you understand and respond to them rightly.

1. James was writing to suffering Christians just like you.

2. James wants you to know that your trials have a loving purpose to them.

3. James also wants you to know how you should respond to your trials.

4. James wants you to know that in order to understand and respond rightly to your trials you need God's wisdom.

Anthony Selvaggio "Trials build the muscle of our faith and enable us to run with greater endurance the marathon that is the Christian life."

Anthony Selvaggio "Trials are like a sculpting knife in the hands of God. He uses them to smooth our rough edges and to transform us into the glorious, and perfect, image of his Son."

Douglas Moo "James does not ... suggest that Christians facing trials will have no response other than joy, as if we were commanded never to be saddened by difficulties. His point, rather, is that trials should be an occasion for genuine rejoicing."

Exodus 36:1 "And Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded." (NKJV)

J.A. Motyer "[The wise man] knows how to use his Bible to understand life and the world around him, and to guide his own conduct and the conduct of others in the maze of life's problems."