

JAMES 1: 1-12

“The Christian Life is No Buggy Ride Down Daisy Lane”

“The early church was married to poverty, prisons and persecutions. Today, the church is married to prosperity , personality, and popularity.”-- Leonard Ravenhill

James 1:1- A bond servant of God and the Lord Jesus Christ

James 1:2- Count or consider it all joy when you encounter various trials

— — We must evaluate our trials and make a conscience commitment to face them with joy; this is not natural for us.

Trials = To put someone to the test. Every trial becomes a test of faith to strengthen the christian. A wrong response leads to temptation to sin.

Phil. 4:4- Paul writes to the Philippians from prison, “Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.”

Eph. 6:10- Tells us to be strong in the Lord and the strength of His might.

James 1:3- Knowing the testing of your faith produces endurance.

— — We learn to be strong in the Lord and the strength of His might through trials.

Famous verse- I Cor. 10:13- No temptation has overtaken you such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.

James 1:4- Let endurance have its perfect result that you will be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

— — God uses our trials to build a strong and righteous character. This is part of the maturing process in our life.

I John 2:14 - I have written to you young men because you are strong and the word of God abides in you and you have overcome the evil one.

James 1:5- But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men generously and without reproach and it will be given to him.

— — prayer, submission and reliance on God

Eph. 6:18- forgotten part of battle- With all prayer and petition, pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.

Proverbs 1:7- The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

James 1:6- But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

— — Asking in faith is trusting in a sovereign God.

Without any doubting= Not having stinkin - thinkin

Romans 12:2- Be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good, acceptable, and perfect.

Psalm 62:2- He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be greatly shaken.

James 1:7-8 - For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

— —The man driven and tossed by the wind- this is a picture of an unstable man whose mind is divided by the world and God.

double-minded = hypocrites-sometimes they are okay with the God stuff but when trials come, they fail the test.

Joshua 24:15- Joshua's famous verse-"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

James 1:9-10 - But let the brother of humble circumstances glory in his high position; and let the rich man glory in his humiliation because like flowering grass, he will pass away.

— —Trials have a way of making us all equal. When things are outside of our control, we become more dependent upon the Lord. Maybe that is the best place for us to be at times.

Regardless of financial status, Christians are totally dependent on God! True riches are only found in Jesus Christ and an obedient walk with Him!

Mark 8:36- For what does it profit man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?

James 1:11- For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so to the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

— — Regardless of your material possessions, life is short and you can't take your earthly possessions with you.

Isaiah 40:8- The grass withers, the flower fades but the Word of God stands forever.

James 4:14- You do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while then vanishes away.

James 1:12- Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

— —True joy or happiness is found in holding up through reliance on God under trials. Perseverance = never giving up and holding onto God through whatever painful trials you face.

Approved = passing the test you have endured for God's glory.

2 Tim. 4:6-8- Paul finished the course and kept the faith. He will receive his crown along with all those who are longing and waiting for Christ return.

