

Trusting in the God You Believe In

James 1:2-8

📖 James 1:2–8 (NIV) “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.”

Trouble tests our trust.

1. Testing is **inevitable**.

📖 James 1:2 (NIV) “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,”

2. Testing has a **purpose**.

📖 James 1:2–4 (NIV) “Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

📖 1 Peter 1:6–7 (NIV) “In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

Uncertainty tests our trust.

📖 James 1:5 (NIV) “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.”

📖 Proverbs 3:5–6 (NIV) “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

1. Trust the Lord **completely**.

2. Acknowledge the Lord **continually**.

3. Follow the Lord **confidently**.

📖 James 1:6–8 (NIV) “But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.”

📖 Proverbs 2:8–9 (NLT) “He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to Him. ⁹ Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go.”

📖 Jeremiah 17:7 (NIV) “...blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him.”

📖 Psalm 50:15 (NKJV) “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

Digging Deeper:

Do you believe in God? Have you placed your faith in God and trusted your eternity to Him? Is Jesus your Savior and Lord? If we trust God with those **BIG** things, why do we struggle at times to trust Him with other things? What is it about difficulty that seems to derail our faith? Have you learned to rejoice in suffering? Are you living out Proverbs 3:5-6 in your life right now?

