

“A PARADOX: JOY IN TRIALS”

SERMON NOTES

James 1:1-4

What is a paradox?

What is unique about the situation of James & its content?

What is the focus of the book?

1. _____ **this Radical Worldview (vv. 1-2)**

Consider (verb & command) – Significance? =

Why should I see myself as a bondservant?

Joy in trials? Meaning?

How are trials a benefit/profit to us?

- In leading us to seek God in prayer – Jdg 4:3; Je 31:18; Lam 2:17-19; Ho 5:14,15; Jonah 2:1
- In convincing us of our sin – Job 36:8,9; Ps 119:67; Lk 15:16-18
- In leading us to confession of sin – Nu 21:7; Ps 32:5; 51:3,5
- In testing and exhibiting our sincerity – Job 23:10; Psalms 66:10; Pr 17:3
- In trying our faith and obedience – Ge 22:1,2; He 11:17; Ex 15:23-25; Deut 8:2,16; 1Pe 1:7; Re 2:10
- In humbling us – Deut 8:3,16; 2Chr 7:13,14; Lam 3:19,20; 2Co 12:7
- In exercising our patience – Ps 40:1; Ro 5:3; James 1:3; 1 Pe 2:20
- In rendering us fruitful in good works – John 15:2; Heb 12:10,11
- In furthering the gospel – Acts 8:3,4; 11:19-21; Php 1:12; 2Ti 2:9,10; 4:16,17

2. **Be** _____ **by this Truth (v. 3)**

Is this new information? Why/why not? Importance?

Endurance –

What is God’s purpose for trials?

3. _____ **to the Refining Process (v. 4)**

- **Have a yielded, dependent** _____

“Truth must become conviction that leads to action.” How does that apply here?

- **Remember this is a** _____ **(Rom 5:3-4)**

Perfect –

- **Yielding to the process is the** _____ **to the “perfect & complete” (Phil 2:14-15; Jn 19:30; 2 Pt 1:5-9)**

Perfect & Complete –

How does “perfect” here relate to “finished” in Jn 19:30?

Why do some people never grow spiritually?