James #2

We all will encounter trials and challenges.

Open up in our current study in the book of James chapter one.

Jam 1:1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

The Greek verb – *chairō,* (K-EYE-ROW) means not just greeting but rejoice – it is in the present tense - keep on rejoicing.

Many of the original families of Israel had been dispersed centuries before in the days of Alexander the Great, when he took Jews all over the world and used them as administrators.

Even in slavery God’s people were always protected especially those who never lost their faith.

The Romans would also follow a lead from the Greeks, in using Jews for accounting, or assistance in organizing government affairs as well.

/[Jas 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/2/s_1147002) **Consider it all joy**, my brothers *and sisters,* when **you encounter various trials**,\

[Jas 1:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/3/s_1147003) knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

You will see how Pastor James is now using a building block technique. Similar to that of the Apostle Paul who also used this in some of his teaching.

[Jas 1:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/4/s_1147004) And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

[Jas 1:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/5/s_1147005) But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

/Jam 1:2 *Consider it all joy* –

The Greek verb, imperative mood; *hēgeomai.* Meaning to count or be first in authority or leadership. It is a verb used for organized authority, to be a leader and have an accounting over something or someone.\

HEY-GAY-OH-MY, this is a word used for organized authority, such as counting or law and order.

This is leading into adding up and coming to a final conclusion.

James is using a strong command and preparing for a building block lesson.

Meaning, step one is always followed by step two and then three.

/Jam 1:2 – to have inner peace (joy) *chara,* having a calm joy, a peaceful confidence, such as in the proper application of Faith-Rest.

When you (matter of fact) face various trials – *peirasmos,* meaning a temptation or experiment, or a test of your mental strength. \

CAR-RAH, is not a silliness of laughter or outward glee. It is referencing a divine inner peace and sense of calm security.

PIE-LOS-MOS, is often used for a temptation not just a trial or challenge. The focus is really on the mentality of the soul.

/James is stating, to remain in a position of strength, faith-rest, keep applying doctrine. Realizing the tests, temptations and challenges are going to happen from time to time. This is saying that the only possible way for you to have divine happiness (inner peace) in a pressure situation, is for doctrine in the soul to come forth to meet the pressure.\

The interesting principles you will find in the book of James is that most of it is directed at Christians to start applying what they learned.

It is a lesson in lifestyle choices after salvation – it is not a book solely focused on leading Unbels into salvation. Though there are principles woven in it related to the doctrine of Soteriology.

 REPEAT

/Most of the epistle of James is really dealing with the overt side of things and is saying in effect that there are some norms and standards, that if you are growing spiritually will come out. An edification complex in the soul manifests itself in this way, and when an edification complex works, then you have justification by works.\

It truly is a secondary result of justification many Bels never fully grasp.

Phase two of the doctrine of Justifucation.

This aspect of justification will pop up several times in our study of James because it is a foundation in the principle he is teaching on.

/When you come to believe in Christ, that is justification by faith; but when you as a Believer have begun to truly absorb doctrine and grow toward maturity, you develop an edification complex of the soul that becomes justification by works, divine good from the Fruit of the Spirit. \

The mechanics of phase one justification is the imputation of divine righteousness to the one believing in Christ —

/Gen 15:6 Then he believed in the LORD; and He credited it to him as righteousness.

Rom 3:28 For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from works of the Law. \

The work of justification was accomplished by Jesus Christ on the cross —

/Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.\

At salvation you are justified.

Then after salvation your walk declares that justification is growing into something special, or that you chose the cosmic system over the grace and freedom GOD has given you.

Because the work of our justification was fully accomplished on the cross. Jesus Christ was resurrected to solidify justification for the strategic victory of the angelic conflict —

/Rom 4:25 *He* who was delivered over because of our wrongdoings, and was raised because of our justification.

The resurrection ensures the completed victory over Satan. This ensures we have a resurrected life in the future, as well as a resurrected life now (stage two) in walking in our justification into maturity.\

We can walk in our position which is a heavenly ambassador and a Bel priest.

Phase two justification or vindication is the function or the production of the Christian walking into maturity, especially the super-grace life;

/Heb 11:4 **By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice** than Cain, through which **he was attested to be righteous**, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks.

Abel was a Believer long before he offered that sacrifice. (James 2)\

In the book of Romans along with other NT scriptures, we see justification by faith; in the book of James, we have justification by works.

This is not a contradiction once you study the principles behind the scriptures.

 REPEAT

 They refer to two different phases of the plan of God.

/Phase one: justification by faith.; At the moment of salvation 40 grace gifts are given to the Bel.

Phase two: justification by works, speaks to the Christian-walk into maturity.

This again points to winners or loser in heaven. There would be no need for crowns, blessings and rewards in the spiritual life if this stage of growing after salvation did not matter.\

In the reference to Abel, he probably performed this sacrifice ritual time and time again.

He had the ritual of animal sacrifices and in offering these sacrifices to God he was actually indicating the BD in his soul, the super-grace status, the great blessing from God. The spiritual mature life is God pouring out blessing to us.

Phase two vindication is the function or production of the Bel walking toward the super-grace life.

 REPEAT

/Whatever you are doing habitually and what you truly believe, shows what you have deep within your soul structure. Stage two justification is what your walk of intimacy with God will reveal, not from the flesh. It will naturally come forth in your life.\

God’s grace provides for everything and it excludes human abilities, human viewpoint or human achievements.

/Whatever a person’s talent or ability is can be used, but that isn’t the power of God. The power of God is found in HIS grace plan, within the provision of God. This provision of God is only discovered in doctrine — starting with the ministry of God the Holy Spirit and a consistent positive attitude toward the WORD. The teaching in James is about the result of growing after salvation.\

Neither James or Jude or anyone in the human family of our LORD, including Mary, or even Joseph his father, were saved on the basis of their family relationship with Jesus Christ.

They were saved like everyone else by faith in Christ.

During this study of the letter from James, we can never lose sight of faith alone in Christ alone for salvation. It is never confused or conflated into faith by works.

That was never the design or message from this book.

 REPEAT

In James chapter one he begins to build upon certain principles – these building blocks are highlighting the walk of a Believer.

/[Jas 1:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/2/s_1147002) Consider it all joy, my brothers *and sisters,* **when you encounter various trials,**

WHEN YOU encounter – this is a factual statement. The question becomes what will your spiritual walk look like when the trials, temptations and challenges strike? \

There is no where in scripture that you find a growing Christian will never face pressure or adversity.

In fact, it usually is the exact opposite.

Testing and pressure are how we all grow.

Some of the greatest triumphs and growth spurts happen after a period of testing and pressure.

/Diamonds are formed under high pressure and intense heat deep within the Earth's crust. Pearls are formed when a grain of sand works its way into an oyster, which then covers the sand with layers of shell to protect itself. This process occurs under stress over a long period of time. Our spiritual life is considered to be precious stones that shine under fire.\

We have to begin to walk in phase two of our Justification – this is our calling, which means we will face tribulation from the cosmic system;

/Jhn 16:33 I have said these things to you, that **in me you may have peace**. In the world **you will have tribulation**. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

This is why applying and living in the word and the filling power of HS becomes so vital.\

When the - you know what, hits the fan, we all stumble and emotions kick in.

That is normal…what matters is the hours and days afterward, what you decide to do and what you decide to live in going forward.

/Rom 5:3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

Rom 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.\

There is no solution for problems or testing or any adversity once your emotions fully take charge.

The calling in our study in James is a call to keep heading into SM, do not let the cosmic system get you sidetracked.

There will be adversity!

Many tests and trials are simply there for the Bel to apply BD to move forward, they are often sent by GOD for our own growth.

In fact, even the attacks and stumbling blocks sent by the kingdom of darkness are tests and opportunity for growth to glorify GOD in the spiritual battle.

There is no victory in retreating all the time and there is no growth without pressure and testing.

Every person - BEL or UNBEL is living in a flawed system.

 A system riddled with demonic influence around every corner. We have a temporal, fleshly body that will only sustain us for a certain period of time.

So, adversity and pressure will arise for all of us. Physical and mental stumbling blocks will pop up from time to time.

The difference is for the Christian they are working on eternal glory, while the Unbel is bidding time until they are in everlasting misery.

The difference is the Christian is under the protection and care of the Triune GOD, who works endlessly in our favor.

/1Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.\