

Joy in a Joyless World - Trials

James 1:2-12 - August 4, 2024

Isaiah 41:10, 13 NKJV - 10 Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.' ... 13 For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, Saying to you, 'Fear not, I will help you.'

James 1:2-12 NKJV - 2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. 9 Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, 10 but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. 11 For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits. 12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Background

1 Corinthians 15:7 NKJV - 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.

Matthew 5:5 NKJV - 5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.

A _____ Full of Joy in Trials

Outlook determines _____, and attitude determines _____.

John 16:33 NKJV - 33 "...In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

1 Peter 4:12 NKJV - 12 Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;

A Christian that counts trials as joy is _____ life for the things that _____ the most.

Hebrews 12:2 NKJV - 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Our _____ determine our _____.

Luke 22:42 NKJV - 42 ..."Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

A Mind That _____ Trials

1 Peter 1:6-9 NKJV - 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith--the salvation of your souls.

_____ is the key to unlocking every single other _____ in our lives.

When you learn to _____ upon the Lord, God can do great things in your life!

An Attitude of _____

If you _____ yourself from the various trials in life, you will never grow up as a Christian.

Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV - 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

A _____ for Wisdom

1 Kings 3:9 NKJV - 9 "Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

1 Kings 4:29 NKJV - 29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore.

Matthew 14:31 NKJV - 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"

1. Have a mind that understands trials.
2. Have an attitude of surrender.
3. Pray for wisdom.