

#1



***James #2 Faith's Lifestyle:
How to conquer trials and temptations?
James 1:2-8; James 1:12-18***

James told us that temptations and trials are common to every one of us.

These tests and trials prove or give evidence to our faith. Every time we conquer a temptation, we become more pure, holy, and righteous.

When we triumphantly go through the trials of life, we become stronger and more steadfast.

When we stand up against trials and temptations, we become a dynamic witness to all who see us.

We are demonstrating the living presence and power of Christ in our lives.

We are proving and giving evidence that Christ is actually lives in our hearts and lives.

We are more than conquerors with Christ.

- Have you ever prayed: ***“Lord, change me?”***
- Have you ever said: ***“Lord, make me ready for your coming?”***
- Do you pray: ***“Lord, bring me closer to you?”***
“Lord, show me your power and goodness.”

God is allowing these trials and test to prove us and make us stronger.

He is stirring you up to make you more like Him.

The Holy Spirit is provoking changes in your life.

He is not satisfied with our being stagnant or static.

He is in the process of transforming us into the image and likeness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#2



The love and affection of Jesus for His Church is tremendous.

There is no greater love, than the love He has for us.

There is no greater blessing than to be able to reciprocate that love to Him.

#3



God is going to stir us up so that we have to face the things that need to change in us.

God will face uncomfortable situations that draw our attention to what needs to be changed.

He wants us to face the temptations and trials of life and conquer them.

You have to face them head on and conquer them.

By conquering them, you become more like Christ.

Through your victory, Christ is honored and glorified.

Through your victory, you are perfected and strengthened.

God wants to make you victorious and robust.

He wants to make you stronger.

He wants a powerful and holy Church.

#4



James said we would fall into all kinds of temptations and trials.

In "Word Pictures in the New Testament" A.T. Robertson says: "It is the picture of being surrounded by trials." (Word Pictures in the New Testament, Vol 6, p.11).

The idea is that we will face many trials and temptations of different kinds.

All sorts and kinds of temptations and trials shall come.

Every kind of trial and temptation is coming.

Since we will fall into trials and temptations, we must fall forward.

#5



2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image.

God wants to demonstrate His glory, through us, to the world.

So, what is God doing?

He is changing us.

We did not have glory when He started working on us. But, He has exposed us to His power and His glory. He is encouraging us to come higher with Him.

The Holy Spirit is in the process of changing us into the glorious image of Jesus Christ.

#6



How is He making this transformation?

This is a transmutation from one form or character into another.

He is changing us.

Do you remember what you were like before you were saved?

What was your life like?

Were you were carrying around a lot of excess and dirty baggage?

Are you carrying the same old stuff in your life?

The Holy Spirit wants to keep us before the Lord.

He is changing our lives to be an example of God's glory to this world.

#7



2 Corinthians 4:17 NIV For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

#8



Hebrews 12:11 NIV No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

*God really wants what is best for us.
He wants to transform our lives.*

#9



The transition is not just about changes in structure, style, and strategy.

Transition is intended to conform us into the image and nature of Jesus.

God does not want us to be like Moses.

When Moses came out from the presence of God, His countenance was changed.

The glory of God was radiant in his face.

So, Moses put a veil over his face, so people could not see the change that had occurred.

God wants the veil removed so people can see the change that has occurred since Jesus Christ came in.

2 Corinthians 3 tells us that the people in the Old Covenant still had a veil that covered their hearts.

But, those who turn to the Lord have the veil taken away.

Once this happens, the Holy Spirit takes us into a new dimension of victory in Christ.

He is in the process of bringing us into His glory.

To demonstrate that change more fully, God allows all kinds of situations to come in our lives.

God wants our testimony of Christ to remain constant regardless of life's circumstances.

We are free to reflect Jesus Christ in every situation.

This happens when things are great and when they are sour.

When life is fair and when the enemy comes in like a flood.

We are a reflection of the glory of God that resides within.

He wants to fill us with His Spirit, power and glory.

#10



Our focus is usually on the smaller picture.

When you read Job what is your opinion?

Do you think God is concerned about Job's life?

Does God care about Job's houses and lands?

Does God care about Job's children and finances?

Does God care about Job's possessions?

Does God care about Job's health?

All of those questions have to do with the smaller picture.

These things concern us tremendously.

Yet, there is a more weighty matter.

God looked at Job as a man that could make it through the test of his faith.

#11



It is not enough for Job to trust God.

Can God trust Job?

God told Satan: "Job's faith will stand the test."

He was a man of integrity, faith, and strength.

He was a man of righteousness.

God knew what kind of man Job was.

No one can state it better than Job did.

#12



Job 23:10 NIV But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

Job had a concept of God's ultimate care over his life.

He trusted God.

He was committed.

“Though God slay me, yet, will I trust Him.”

You don't have to have all of the answers, all you need is faith in God.

That person will come out victoriously.

#13



If you are going to conquer trials and temptations, you must have some kind of understanding about God's person and nature.

You have to know that God is faithful.

You have to know that God is almighty.

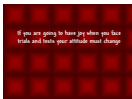
You have to know that God is good.

You have to know that God is worthy of your trust.

You have to know God.

You have to know.

#14



If you are going to have joy when you face trials and tests your attitude must change.

Every one of us will have trials and tests.

There are all kinds of them.

They affect every aspect of life.

Pain

Death

Hurt

Immorality

Sickness

Greed

Disease

Separation

Accidents

Divorce

Anger

Disappointments

Loss

Lust

Lying

Loneliness

Cheating

Emptiness

Weakness

#15



How do you change your attitude when all kinds of trials come?

How do you change your attitude when the seductions of temptations come?

***None of these things move me!
That I might win Christ!***

#16



We must know something.

James 1:5 (NLT) If you need wisdom—if you want to know what God wants you to do—ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking.

Wisdom is not just a head full of facts.

Wisdom understands the trials and temptations.

Wisdom understands what to do with them.

Wisdom takes action.

Wisdom conquers.

Wisdom gains the victory.

We must know that God is working in us.

We must know that God is in control.

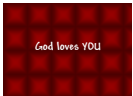
We must know that we are going to be stronger and better.

We must know that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord.

James 1:5 (NLT) If you need wisdom—if you want to know what God wants you to do—ask him, and he will gladly tell you. He will not resent your asking.

We have said this many times, but we need to hear it again.

#17



God loves us.

In the heat of the test or temptation, you need to know that God still loves you.

You need to repeat this to yourself several times: **God loves me.**

#18



***Then we must do something.
We have a responsibility.***

We have to hold on to our faith in God.

Don't allow Satan to destroy your faith.

When you are sifted and tried, you have to hold on.

We must let patience work in us.

We must look at trials as opportunities.

Pure gold must be tried.

When this thing is over you know that victory is coming.

The reward is coming.

#19



1 Corinthians 10:13 NLT The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And **God is faithful**. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.

#20



James 1:12 (NKJV) 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.

James is NOT telling us that trials and temptations will come so we can see what we can get into.

#21



Proverbs 4:14 (NKJV) Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil.

#22



Romans 6:13 (NKJV) Do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

#23



Paul told the Ephesian believers to prepare to fight a good fight.

Ephesians 6:13 (NKJV) Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

When James tells you to let patience have her perfect work in you, he is not telling you to be careless and indifferent.

We have to take an attitude of vigilance and faith.
Face your test or trial with faith.

#24



In Luke 6:48 Jesus gave a perfect illustration.

Luke 6:48 (NKJV) He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

The person who endures trials and temptations is the person who will be blessed and receive a crown of life.

Confront your trials and temptations with the spirit of a conqueror.

Through Jesus Christ you are going to win.

Through Jesus Christ we shall wear a crown.

Through Jesus Christ you are going to the next level of victory.

#25



Revelation 3:11 (NKJV) Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

I am going to overcome this thing.

I am going on with Christ Jesus.

I am going to be a conqueror.