

1 James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve [Hebrew] tribes [scattered abroad among the Gentiles] in the dispersion: Greetings (rejoice)!

2 Consider it nothing but joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials.



James 1:1-4 AMP

3 Be assured that the testing of your faith [through experience] produces endurance [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace].

4 And let endurance have its perfect result and do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and completely developed [in your faith], lacking in nothing.



James 1:1-4 AMP

i. Genuine Faith

a. Is a tested faith - James 1:2-16

- Trials in Greek peirasmos
- Mature in Greek teleios

b. Is patient in suffering - James 5:7-12

<u>James 5:8</u> "be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near"

James 5:11 "11 As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy"



i. Genuine Faith

c. Evidence of such:

(1) Manifest in good deeds (James 2:14-26)

<u>James 2:18</u> "Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds"

James 2:21 "Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did"

<u>James 2:24</u> "You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone"



i. Genuine Faith

c. Evidence of such:

(2) Trusts God in daily living (James 4:13-17)

<u>James 4:15</u> "Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

(3) Diligently prays (James 5:13-20)

<u>James 5:13</u> "Is anyone among you in trouble?"



ii. You need faith to please God

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Hebrews 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him"

Hebrews 11:3 "By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible" "



a. Faith of the Patriarchs -

The example of Noah

Hebrews 11:7 "By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith"



b. Faith of Abraham and family -He was as good as dead

Hebrews 11:11-12 "And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and **he as good as dead**, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore".



c. Faith of Moses -

Persevere because you see Him who is invisible

Perseverance in Greek is hupomone

Hebrews 11:27 "27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible"



- d. Faith of the Israelites
- (1) Do not fear, He will part the waters

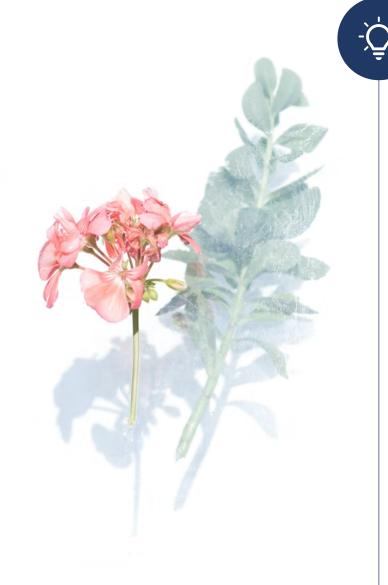
Hebrews 11:29 "By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned"



d. Faith of the Israelites

(2) Remove your sackcloth and let your war cry breakforth (Joshua 6)

Joshua 6:15 "On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. 16 The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city!"



e. Faith of the Judges and Prophets - your pursuit is not the reward or the outcome, but rather for His will to be done

Hebrews 11:39-40 - These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.



iv. Conclusion

James 1:12 - Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.



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