



through the storm

Finding Joy in the Storm

May 30, 2021

James 1:1–8(ESV)

¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,
To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:
Greetings.

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

INTRODUCTION:

When I find myself in a storm, what is a healthy way for me to respond to it?

Where can I find a healthy perspective?

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know . . .” James 1:2–3

James wants us to know for certain:

- What trials do
- How they do it
- What the result is
- There is help for the journey

1. What trials do - They test our faith

“for you know that the testing of your faith . . .” James 1:3

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 1:6–7

⁸ Behold, I go forward, but he is not there,
and backward, but I do not perceive him;
⁹ on the left hand when he is working, I do not behold him;
he turns to the right hand, but I do not see him.
¹⁰ But he knows the way that I take;
when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.” Job 23:8–10

2. How they do it - The testing of our faith produces steadfastness (perseverance)

“for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.” James 1:3

3. What is the result? - Steadfastness results in wholeness (perfection), maturity, completeness

“And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” James 1:4

4. There is help for the journey - All of this is supported through wisdom and faith

“But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.” James 1:6

“...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12:2