

Title: Faith and Testing

Text: James 1:1-4

THE EXAMPLE OF THE LORD JESUS

1. He went through forty days and forty nights in the wilderness
2. He returned in the power of the Spirit
3. He overcame the testing of the devil

THE BOOK OF JAMES

1. James also wrote on testing
2. He was writing to help people who were going through some testing
3. His example of faith: the Lord Jesus

VARIOUS TRIALS

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials” (James 1:2)

1. What are trials?
 - a. Tests
 - b. That which is tested: our faith
2. Testing comes in various and different forms
3. There is a good end that comes out of testing
 - a. We do not have to be afraid
 - b. We do not have to overly concerned or anxious

THE IMPORTANCE OF TESTING

1. It helps us to cultivate an important quality: Endurance (Patience)
2. Without testing, we would not be able to learn endurance
3. Endurance
 - a. To be put under pressure
 - b. But still able to “remain” (unmoved)

THE PURPOSE OF ENDURANCE

“but let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing” (James 1:4)

1. There is a good work that “endurance” does in our lives
 - a. It makes us mature
 - b. It makes us complete, lacking in nothing
2. God has many things in store for us
 - a. It is up to us to discover it
 - b. It is up to us to endure that we may receive it

A GREAT RESPONSE TO TESTING: COUNT IT ALL JOY

1. The world’s response when difficulty is faced
 - a. Resignation
 - b. Discouragement
 - c. Dismay
2. A great response: to count it all joy
 - a. To consider it for ourselves
 - i. Clear
 - ii. Certain
 - iii. Unaffected by others
 - b. All joy
 - i. No lack of joy
 - ii. Joy in every way

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

“Count it all joy when you fall into various trials”