

**This Is The Way
Facing Trials
James 1:2-4**

Introduction: Everyday Trials

Our Focus: We move from looking up and in to out. We are looking at how to work out our faith in the ordinary events of life, particularly by our patient acceptance of everyday trials. The phrase to summarize this step is: Patiently Endure Problems.

Studies In Pessimism

Observe: Life as seen by philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer

Reality: Life presents itself as a series of tasks.

An Optimistic Minority Report

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. (James 1:2-4 NIV)

Consider What's Taught

Whenever you face trials of many kinds

- Trials:
- Many Kinds:
- Whenever:
- Face:

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. (1 Peter 4:12-14 NIV)

Consider it pure joy

- Consider:

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves. (Philippians 2:3 NASB)

He (Jesus) ... did not consider equality with God something to be grasped. (Philippians 2:6 NIV)

What is more, I (Paul) consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ. (Philippians 3:8 NIV)

By faith even Sarah herself received ability to conceive, even beyond the proper time of life, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. (Hebrews 11:11 NASB)

He (Moses) considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. (Hebrews 11:26 ESV)

King Agrippa, I (Paul) consider myself fortunate to stand before you today as I make my defense against all the accusations of the Jews. (Acts 26:2 NIV)

- Pure Joy:

God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. (Matthew 5:11-12 NLT)

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. (Romans 8:18 NIV)

Conclusion: Consider Why James Could Be Optimistic

Question: Why was James able to have such a positive, faith-rooted outlook on life?

- Childhood years
- A Life-changing Appearance