



**Main point** - The Lord wants to strengthen your faith today

- 1 - You can relate to James
- 2 - Your trials are beneficial for your faith
- 3 - You have good reasons for joy in every trial

**#1:**

“(Real faith is) a living, busy, active, mighty thing...it is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. It never asks whether good works are to be done; it has done them before the question can be asked and is always doing them. Whoever does not do such works is an unbeliever...Thus, it is impossible to separate works from faith, quite as impossible as to separate heat and light from fire.”

**Martin Luther**  
Romans

**#2:**

“James wants those who profess to believe in Christ to be real disciples and manifest living faith, and he wants to awaken people who complacently think they are believers but do not act like believers – in other words, those who have deceived themselves. Further, the threats to faith that can come by way of persecution, illness, and the delay of the coming of the Lord are met with exhortations to persevere, which is the stance of faith. Truly, James as a whole is a book about genuine faith. Surely, there are few times more in need of James’s insistence that faith be genuine than our own.”

**Dan G. McCartney**  
James: Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament

**#3:**

“In Christ there is no dead and sapless branches; faith is not an idle grace; wherever it is, it fructifieth in good works. To evince all this to you, I have chosen to explain this epistle.”

**Thomas Manton**  
James