



JAMES

— TRANSFORMED BY FAITH →

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?!?

— James 1:1-4 — FAITH →

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

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

AUTHOR, TIME & AUDIENCE

- Author: James (v. 1); Half-brother of Jesus
- After Jesus was born, Joseph and Mary had other children
- Written in mid-40s; First book of New Testament
- “in the Dispersion”: early Christians forced to leave Jerusalem

GOD INTENDS TO MAKE ME LIKE JESUS

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James 1:4b

TESTED FAITH IS MATURE AND MISSIONAL

— TRANSPARENT BY FAITH →

James 1:3-4a

OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS SUFFERING NEEDS TO CHANGE

James 1:2

FOR REFLECTION & REPENTANCE

- Where have I seen suffering as a barrier to my life-goals *rather* than God's grace to make me more like Jesus?
- Have I prayed for an "easy" life and lost sight of the mission to make Jesus known throughout the world?
- Where have I complained about my trials—and forgotten to care for others around me who are *also* suffering?
- Where does my attitude towards suffering need to be aligned with the Word of God?



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