

Learning to Enjoy your Trials
James 1:1-18
November 17, 2019

“When hard times come, be a student, not a victim.”

Big Idea: Trials and temptations are inevitable in our lives, and God intends both of them to deepen our faith.

We should trust God in our trials. (2)

- We should not trust our feelings!
- Joy means joy!

God is Sovereign Over Our Trials

- Trials help us to grow in Christlikeness. (3-4)

Trials are a joy when God is our goal.

Hebrews 12:2 (ESV)

² 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.

- Trials help us to live for His reward. (12)

We are responsible in our temptations (13-14)

- God is perfectly sinless, and we are utterly sinful.
- What God means for good, Satan uses for evil.

- *A trial becomes a temptation when we respond wrongly.*

God is faithful to sustain us through our trials. (16-18)

- With His enduring goodness. (17)
- With His everlasting goodness. (18)

Since God has saved us from our sin, He will see us through our sorrow.

Dave Platt

Romans 8:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Romans 8:31 (ESV)

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?