

RESPONDING TO TRIALS

JAMES 1:2-4

I. GOD CALLS OUR ATTENTION, NOT ONLY TO THE INEVITABILITY OF A SINGLE TRIAL, BUT OF MULTIPLE TRIALS (1:2-4)

- A. Trials Of Varied Sources And Lengths Will Also Be Diverse In Character And Severity
- B. Trials Are The Irreplaceable Means Toward The End Of Christian Maturity

II. DEFINITION OF "*TEMPTATIONS*"

- A. Solicitations To Evil
- B. The Stress Of Adversity

III. SPECIFIC COUNSEL IN RESPONDING TO TRIALS (1:2-4)

- A. Make An Assessment Of The Total Experience (1:2-3)
 - 1. There Should Be Nothing Other Than "*Joy*" In The Experience
 - a. God Is Not Telling Us To "Enjoy" It
 - b. There Is Rejoicing Over Understanding The Total Process Involved
 - 2. Specific Things That We Know Are Taking Place (1:3)
 - a. A Test Is Being Administered
 - b. Our Faith Is Being Refined
 - c. Endurance Is Being Developed
- B. Allow The Process To Continue To The Point Of Perfection (1:4)
 - 1. There Is Always The Tragic Possibility That We Cut It Short
 - 2. All Of The Parts Will Be In Place