

# Embracing Patience as A Disciple of Jesus Christ



**James 1:2-8, 2 Timothy 3:10-17**

- This passage of Scripture is a reminder that every true disciple will be tested by many trials, tribulations and temptations in this life. (James 1:2-8, John 16:33, 2 Timothy 3:12-13, Matthew 6:31-33)
  - Purpose: To assist us in our continual growth and develop while enduring the test and trials of this life as Christ disciples.
  - Goal: To encourage every disciple of Jesus Christ to finish the ministry work of Christ.
  - Spiritual Principles: Authority, Grace, Obedience, Stewardship, Faith, Agreement
- Notice James declares, “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.” (vs. 2)
    1. An attitude of joy or a spirit of joy. (1 Peter 1:3-9)
      - The statement is true, “Your attitude will determine your altitude.”
    2. A disciple of Christ can have an attitude of “joy or a spirit of joy” when facing all forms of trials, suffering, and pain.
  - There are Three Things a Disciple must understand and remember:
    1. Being a disciple of Christ doesn’t mean we are exempt from all forms of trials and temptation. (John 16:33)
    2. Being a disciple of Christ don’t mean we are joyful over the negatives things that are happening in our lives.
    3. Being a disciple of Christ do mean to “count it all joy or consider it a great joy” is a choice. (vs. 2) (Psalms 5:11-12, 34:1-3, Romans 15:13)
      - We choose to rejoice in the Lord and trust His abiding presence to fill our lives with joy and peace in all situations. (Nehemiah 8:10, Psalm 16:11)
      - We choose to focus on the Lord. (Psalm 121:1-8, Hebrews 12:1-2)
      - We choose to put our faith and trust in the Source and Sustainer of life, which is The Lord God Almighty. (Proverbs 3:5-7, Psalm 37:1-11)
  - 3. A disciple of Christ should maintain a good attitude toward God and their trials. (2 Corinthians 3:18, 2 Corinthians 4:17, Hebrews 12:11, 1 Peter 3:14-15, Job 23:10)

- There are Five (5) ways God uses trials and temptation for his purposes and our benefit.
  1. To develop Christ's character in us. (Matthew 7:18, 20, Galatians 5:22-23, Job 23:10, 1 Corinthians 15:33)
  2. To grow and develop us spiritually. (2 Corinthians 4:15-18, 2 Peter 3:17-18)
  3. To transform and conform us into Christ's image and likeness. (2 Corinthians 3:17-18)
  4. To expose our weakness and strengthen our faith in Him. (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)
  5. To develop us into an effective witness for Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:14-15)
    - God uses all forms of trials and temptations to test us, prove us, strengthen us, develop us, purify us, and to make us more and more like Jesus Christ.
    - God requires Christ's disciples to develop through various trials. (James 1:2-3)
      - (vs. 2) – “when you fall into various trials...”
        - a. The word “various” means all forms, all sorts of or different kinds of.
        - b. The Greek word “trials or temptations” means to try, to test, or to prove.
        - c. There are different forms of trials which can be spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, relational, and financial.
      - Christ's disciples can overcome various trials by the process of three things. (vs. 3, James 1:21-22)
        1. Knowing something.
        2. Doing something.
        3. Becoming something.
        - (vs. 3) – “knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.”
          - a. The word “patience” means endurance, perseverance, and to be steadfast.
          - b. The word “produces” is plural and not singular.
          - c. The word “produces” means to bring about, working toward something, to developed into something or build toward something.

- The results of “patience” is Christ’s character being built and develop in our lives.
  - The product of “patience” is spiritual fruit. The producer of the fruit is the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22)
1. Requires “Knowing” something. (vs. 3)
- True disciples must “know” their faith in Jesus Christ will be put on trial. (Galatians 6:9)
  - True disciples must “know” God is faithful to His Word and promises. (Hebrews 10:23, Psalms 27:13-14, Isaiah 55:11)
  - True disciples must “know” that every test and temptation will be used to strengthened our faith in Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:13, Isaiah 40:28-31, 43:1-3)