

God's Promise of Maturity through Adversity  
James 1:2-4

**Sermon in One Sentence:**

When we encounter trials, we should count it as joy, submitting to God, knowing that He is using it for our maturity.

I. Adopt a radical attitude in trials: "Consider it a Great Joy" (V2)

A. This radical attribute accepts trials as expected, not as a surprise. (V2, 1 Peter 4:12)

B. This radical attitude does not require denying emotional pain. (John 11:33-35, Romans 12:15)

C. This radical attitude should distinguish us from the world. (1 Thess. 4:13, Romans 8:28, Ps. 30:5)

D. This radical attitude results from a deliberate choice.

II. Understand this reassuring truth in trials: "Knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance" (V3)

A. God is sovereign over every trial.

(These are for PowerPoint only - with the verses too on the PowerPoint) If possible :)

- Rain and Snow that fall (Job 37:6-13)
- Random Events (Prov 16:33)
- Events of the Nations (Ps. 22:28, Acts 14:16)
- Birth defects (Ex. 4:11)
- Natural Disasters (Genesis 6:17)
- Evil people do though not responsible for their sin (Genesis 50:20)

B. God is using the trials to test our faith to produce endurance.

III. Submit to the refining process in trials: "Let endurance have it's full effect.." (V4)

A. Recognize that maturity is a process, not instant perfection.

B. Submitting to the process will result in spiritual maturity.