

"How Does God Produce Maturity In My Life?"

James 1:2-4, 12

I. GOD CALLS US TO THINK ABOUT OUR TRIALS FROM HIS PERSPECTIVE.

1:2-3

A. You and I as believers in Christ are to contemplate our problems in a completely different light.

1. Trials present a time to think...the Bible says "consider."
2. Trials are inevitable...the Bible says "whenever".
3. Trials are consuming...the Bible says face or encounter or fall.
4. Trials are diverse...the Bible says "many".
5. Trials are a part of a process I am to consider "pure joy."
6. Trials in this light will only make sense to a child of God.

B. You and I are to understand that God has a plan in our problems.

1. God wants to stretch our faith.
2. God wants us to "remain under" or endure those trials.

II. GOD CALLS US TO KEEP FROM BLOCKING WHAT HE WANTS TO DO THROUGH OUR TRIALS. 1:4

A. We are to allow the lessons of endurance to move into its perfect work.

B. We also are to allow the lessons of endurance to move us to wholeness.

III. GOD CALLS US TO LIVE IN ANTICIPATION OF WHAT IS TO COME AS A RESULT OF OUR TRIALS. 1:12

A. Perseverance is fundamentally connected to blessing.

B. Perseverance is fundamentally connected to reward.