

Studies in James



Key verse: James 1:12

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

Kick Off

What do Xrays, ultrasounds, night vision glasses and swimming goggles all have in common?
How much harder would it be for those who use such things to do what they do without them?



Big Idea: The trials of life are given to us from our good God to mature and perfect us.

Study two

STUDY

Read James 1:1-18.

1. What attitude are we meant to adopt in regards to trials? Why is it so hard for us to do this?

2. Outline carefully the purpose, process and end goal of trials? Can you identify times in your life where this purpose and process has resulted in the positive outcome James details?

3. How would you define wisdom? Why is wisdom so necessary in relation to trying times?
How is wisdom obtained?

4. Why is doubt such an issue in relation to prayer for wisdom?

James makes a distinction between trials that have a positive end goal and temptations which entice us to evil.

5. Where does the origin of temptation come from if not from God?

6. Outline carefully the process and end place for those who give in to temptation.

7. How can we avoid being deceived by temptation and gain strength to overcome it?

8. We tend to label negative life circumstances as trials and positive life circumstances as blessings. How does v9 challenge this view? List some trials the poor and the rich might be susceptible to.

9. What does James tell us, is God's will for us and his actions towards us in vv16-18? Should we see what we would classify as negative life experiences, as good gifts from God?

THINK AND APPLY

Think of someone who is a biblically wise person. What things mark them out as such?

What are the most likely trials we need to be aware of and how could we combat them?

Do you think James is anti-wealth as a general rule?

When has God's promise of a glorious future helped you through tough times?

PRAYER

What can you pray about arising from this study?



**For next week
Read
James 1:19-2:7**