

Living by Faith II: James

"Over Trials"

James 1: 2-12

Going Beyond the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on August 20, 2017

Entering In:

Why do you like classical music, or why not?

What is the most important factor for delivering a harmonious orchestra performance?

1. What are the two points about trials mentioned in the sermon?

A. Trials come _____

B. Trials _____

Are all *trials* that *test your faith* necessarily temptations? Share an example of a *trial* that is not a temptation.

Explain the difference among *perseverance*, *patience*, and *stubbornness*.

What are some common circumstances in which you could easily be tempted to *give up* rather than to persevere?

What will be the fate of the *cowardly*? [Revelation 21:8]

2. Who needs to ask God for wisdom?

How do the following verses apply to the previous question?

- Proverbs 3:7
- Proverbs 26:16
- Proverbs 28:11
- Isaiah 5:21

Pastor defined *divine wisdom* as "God's view of life." In what ways does the world show that it does not have or accept this wisdom? Give an example in a family or marriage relationship.

When do you need to ask God for wisdom? (v.2)

3. What does "asking in faith" mean (v.6)? Choose your answer and explain why.

- A. Believing that God will do what He has promised.
- B. Believing that God can do what we ask.
- C. Both A & B.
- D. Other

What may happen to a believer when he/she has lack of confidence in God's providence?

Using what James says about what the man who doubts is like as a guide, how would you characterize the one who believes?

Share one thing for which you asked God to give you wisdom today.

4. Who is the “double-minded” (two-sided) person?
- A. One who trusts and obeys God only part of the time
 - B. One who goes to two churches
 - C. One who is not firm in his belief
 - D. One who believes in God but belongs to the world.
 - E. Other

How can you avoid being “double-minded”?

5. Fill in the blanks from the text.

- The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in _____
- The one who is rich should take pride in _____

Is James addressing believers in both cases, or is he making a distinction between believers and unbelievers? Explain.

What is the *position* that James has in mind? Why does he describe this position as *high* for one group, but *low* for the other?

What do these exhortations have to do with the initial exhortation (v.2) in this passage?

6. Why do you think it is important to understand that our life is like a plant under the scorching heat?

How do you personally practice being aware of your passing life on earth?

7. What is the reward for those who persevere under trial?

To whom has God promised this reward?

What, then, motivates one to persevere under trial for the sake of Christ?

The crown of life is more than the eternal life given to every believer at the time of his salvation. What do you think it will be like? (cf. Revelation 2:10; John 10:10)

Do you show your love for Christ when you are facing trials? How?

Living It Out:

Pray for those who are going through some trials so that he/she may experience joy even in trials.

