



July 10-16, 2016

Texts: *James 1:2-8*

SUMMARY OF SERMON: Trials are a part of everyone's life. That we all share in common. But trials also vary in their nature and origin. Some trials we need to confront. For example, trials that we experience due to our own sin and those of spiritual warfare. On the other hand, many trials are just part of this broken, hard world. These we embrace through prayer and humility, trusting God to work in and through us. This brings maturity.

RELATED BIBLE PASSAGES FOR THE COMING WEEK [The Bible readings this week illustrate the grace we receive and reflect as we trust the Lord during trials.]

Monday, July 11 – **Romans 5:1-5** [Paul's words in this passage reflect similar thoughts as our text this week. Like James, Paul also encourages us to rejoice in our sufferings because of the fruit God brings and also the abundant grace, hope, and love He gives.]

Tuesday, July 12 – **Hebrews 4:14-16** [Besides the wisdom that we can pray for in our trials, the writer of Hebrews encourages us to humbly come in prayer to our Lord and Savior and receive grace and mercy fit for our situation.]

Wednesday, July 13 – **II Chronicles 20:1-30** [King Jehoshaphat and Judah faced a severe trial in being attacked. Outnumbered they didn't know what to do. But they sought God for wisdom (v.12) and trusted the Lord. They were delivered.]

Thursday, July 14 – **Matthew 5:1-12** [Understanding the "Beatitudes" requires a new mind in Christ and trusting Him and His ways. This includes, ala James 1:2, rejoicing when we are persecuted for our faith (v.12).]

Friday, July 15 – **Psalms 66** [This psalm is full of joy and rejoicing but it also understands that this mature view of God and His greatness has been molded through trials (vv.10-12) by which the people of God learned to trust Him.]

Saturday, July 16 – **I Peter 4:12-19** [Peter is yet another biblical writer who sees trials and suffering for our faith as an opportunity to rejoice in the Lord and put our trust in Him.]



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