

**James 1:2-8 How Christ  
Develops Us...  
In 2025**

## How Christ Develops Us...

**Count or consider:** It is an accounting word;  
it implies something put to a person's credit

**Pure:** uncontaminated, untainted, not polluted but it can also mean clarity of thought, to be able to think and understand what God is doing. Whole thought.

**All:** (*hólos*) Includes the idea of oneness, a totality or the whole

***Count, Consider: (logizesthe), To count; to consider; to reckon; to credit; to set to one's account; to lay to one's charge; to impute; to judge; to treat; to compute. It is an accounting word; it implies something put to a man's credit. It is used many times throughout Romans, about eleven times in Romans 4 alone. It is an extremely important idea in Scripture.***

***Pure: THE WORD MEANS... (eilikrinēs)***  
sincere, honest. It means to sift about through a considerable amount of thinking that are not in alignment with God's and to arrive at Godly conclusions in order to make that thinking pure.

Therefore, the word means pure, uncontaminated, untainted, not polluted. It is the idea of flour or grain passing through a sieve to separate the pure from the impure.

Joy: An inner gladness  
Depth of assurance and  
confidence in Christ

Various or many: *The word for various (poikílos); many-colored and different shapes.*

Persecution, sickness, death of  
a loved one, physical and  
emotional stress

## **Joy Thieves...**

**There are those who might ask you, what did you do to make God angry with you as Jobs friends did. John 9:1-3 (NIV)**

**Can a trial be the result of something that you did do that was wrong? Yes.  
Hebrews 12:5-11 (NIV)**

**There will be those who say... "if you just had the faith the size of mustard seed" ...  
Matthew 17:20-21 (NIV)**

## Face or Fall

In the Greek the word face or fall suggest the idea of unexpectedness.

In other words most trials are things you never saw coming. Nor did you see the multitude of difficulties that often accompany trials.

## Trials...

1. A testing or refining to prove one's character. The strengthening of our faith.
2. An enticement to do evil which this is not a reference for.

## James 1:3...

- Tested faith brings about a depth of character Romans 5:3–5
- Tested faith enables us to comfort and encourage others 2 Corinthians 1:3–5
- Tested faith increases dependence on God for wisdom James 1:5; 3:17–18
- Tested faith encourages us to lead a productive and effective life 2 Peter 1:5–9
- Tested faith helps us to identify with Christ Matthew 4:1–11 Hebrews 5:7–10
- Tested faith allows us to focus on our future hope in Christ Romans 8:18–24



## Four Important words...

Perseverance has been translated to perseverance, endurance, steadfastness, and patience.

Perseverance Means: *patience, endurance, steadfastness.* To persevere; to be *patient*; to have *endurance*; to be *steadfast* in doing the will of God.

Patience Means: bearing and suffering a long time; *perseverance*; being constant, steadfast, and *enduring*.

**Endurance Means: To stand firm; to endure; to bear up under suffering, to be courageous in suffering, to *persevere* and *endure patiently*—but actively, not passively.**

**Steadfast Means: to settle; to establish; to place on a firm foundation; to secure as in a foundation; to ground with security.**

*Persevere (hupomonē) paints a picture of successfully carrying a heavy load for an extended period of time. Like a muscle that becomes strong when it faces resistance from a weight, so Christians develop spiritual strength and stamina through facing trials.*

**James 1:4 (NIV)**

**More holy, righteous, and just**

**We become a much stronger person**

**We increase witness, a living testimony to all those who see us: we demonstrate the living presence and power of Christ—that He actually does live in our hearts and lives and is going to give us eternal life.**

**Remember...**

*Trials, testing, that lead to perseverance that lead to a finished work that God is making in you are like building a creative work of dominions on a huge floor...no matter what the trial or temptation, it is for our good and for our benefit.*

**Caution...**

**If not careful we can easily be tempted to let fear affect us more than we are trusting God...**

## **REACTIONS TO TRIALS**

**Escape—Our first line of defense is to avoid, deny, or escape.**

## REACTIONS TO TRIALS...

**Explain**—When we face trials, we tend to ask, “Why is this happening to me?” If only we could understand God’s reasons, it would be much easier to endure whatever we are suffering.

**Exit**—Once a trial is upon us, we want to get beyond it as quickly as possible. Any shortcut offered is tempting. But quick solutions to trials often involve compromise in areas that we should not negotiate.

Must finish it's work, perseverance will produce three indispensable Godly qualities: maturity, completeness, lacking nothing. Perseverance is not only an end; it is also a means to further ends: so that.... Perseverance, that unswerving tenacity to endure under pressure, will fashion in us:

1. Perfection' or maturity. Knowledge and wisdom to act or wait.
2. Complete indicates a fully developed character; 'entire' is a good sense for the word.
3. Lacking in nothing. Trusting God means we are plugging in to the only source we need.

**God uses trials that build and repair us where we have breaches in our spiritual life.**

**Part of working out our salvation is the enduring of trials that mature us when we approach them with the proper attitude. The perfecting work of the trials is the spiritual growth of believers as well as the believing community.**

*John 8:31-32 (NIV) <sup>31</sup> "If you hold to my teaching...*

To grow (maturity) is a never ending process. Realizing our trials do not define us but our relationship to Christ does. If you hold to his teachings you are one of his disciples.

It is that of *continuing* or *abiding* or *hold* (*meinēte*) in the Lord's Word. The idea is that of dwelling, it is the picture of someone living in their home. The Word of the Lord is the believer's dwelling place.



**Lacking Anything: Mirroring Christ  
behavior more today than you did  
yesterday.**

***“By the way in which we meet every  
experience in life we are either fitting  
or unfitting ourselves for the task  
which God meant us to do”.—William  
Barclay***

**Hebrews 6:1 (NIV)**

**James 1:5 (NIV)**

**The wisdom that we need has three distinct characteristics:**

- **It's Practical**
- **It is a Divine Work**
- **It is to be Christ-like**

# God's generosity

Matthew 7:7–11; Mark 11:24; Luke 11:9–13; John 15:7

We must remember that God's promises do not submit to our plans. This verse is not permitting us to ask God for wisdom to bring about our will. Instead, we should humbly ask him for wisdom to remain in his will.

*James 1:6 Let him ask in faith.* The one condition for receiving this gift of God is faith. God will generously give wisdom, but the one who asks will not receive it if he does not have confidence that God will answer the request.

The writer of Hebrews expresses both the importance of faith and the kind of faith that God requires: “*Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)* <sup>6</sup> *And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*”

**Doubting here has nothing to do with doubting whether God can do something; rather, it describes a person or people “divided” between being self-centered and being God-centered.**

**The choice James presents us in verses 2-8 is clear...**

- We can live a single-minded life of trust in God**
- We can live a double-minded life where every experience will be approached with doubt and lack of trust in God.**

**Conclusion:**  
**Ephesians 3:16-21 (NIV)**