

THE PRAYER GOD LOVES TO ANSWER

November 13, 2016

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

Comfort and hope in persecution

**Comfort and hope in
persecution and trials**

**Faithful obedience
to God**

**Comfort and hope in
persecution and trials**

Faithful obedience to God

**Spiritual instruction and
encouragement**

Galatians 1:19 ¹⁹ *But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.*

Paul vs. James

**James agrees with
salvation by faith**

**and says that REAL
FAITH SHOWS UP IN
HOW YOU LIVE...**

**James is all about
Making It Real**

II. THE PROCESS THAT PRODUCES FRUIT

James 1:1-8 NKJV

¹ James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.

**² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.**

James 1:1-8 NKJV

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him

James 1:1-8 NKJV

6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

1. JOY IN TRIALS

James 1:2 (NKJV) ² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials...

James 1:2 (NLT) ² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy

1. JOY IN TRIALS

James 1:2 (MSG) ² Consider it a sheer gift, friends, when tests and challenges come at you from all sides.

The Passion Translation

“My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are facing nothing but difficulties see it as an invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can.”

2. TESTING PRODUCES PATIENCE

James 1:3 MSG

³ You know that under pressure, your faith-life is forced into the open and shows its true colors.

James 1:3 Passion Translation

For you know that when your faith is tested it stirs up power within you to endure all things.

The amoeba

The amoeba

There's something about living things, even amoebas, that demand challenge.

Comfort alone will destroy us

Deuteronomy 32:11-12 NKJV

¹¹ As an eagle stirs up its nest, Hovers over its young, Spreading out its wings, taking them up, Carrying them on its wings, ¹² So the LORD alone led him...

Billy Graham

“The will of God will never take us where the grace of God cannot sustain us.”

3. PERSEVERANCE PRODUCES MATURITY

James 1:4 Passion Translation

**...as your endurance grows
even stronger it will release
perfection into every part of
your being until there is
nothing missing and
nothing lacking.**

III. THE PRAYER GOD LOVES TO ANSWER

James 1:5 (NLT)

5 If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.

James 1:5 Passion Translation

**And if anyone longs to be wise,
ask God for wisdom and He will
give it! He won't see your lack of
wisdom as an opportunity to
scold you over your failures but
He will overwhelm your failures
with His generous grace.**

One Conditional:

Don't waiver...

Don't be double minded

Honest.

Honest.
Simple Faith.

Honest.
Simple Faith.
Trusting Heart.

That's
The Prayer God
loves to answer.