

# BECOMING A CHILD OF THE KING

James 1:1-12



## 1) The Weight of \_\_\_\_\_

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.” James 1:2-3 NIV

Suffering is inevitable and it tests us. It burns at our character. It weighs heavy on the heart. How we respond to suffering will determine the outcome of our joy and our fulfilling of God’s purposes in our lives.

“The ground must be tilled before we lay down the seed.”

## 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ of the King

“Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:4 NIV

God’s will is for us to be saved through the cross of Christ, and then for us to mature in our faith. He has put the resources of heaven at our disposal to use or ignore.

“Nature's wonders follow the plow.” A.W. Tozer

## 3) The Faith that \_\_\_\_\_

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

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## 3) The Faith that \_\_\_\_\_

“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.”

James 1:5-8 NIV

The reason God may not be answering our prayers is that our contradictory actions are unraveling our prayers. Faith that is based on knowledge, even biblical knowledge, is not enough. We need faith that works.

If God doesn't answer your prayers, it is not because of doubt. Faith lives in the realm of doubt. Faith acts in spite of doubt.

#### 4) The Heart of the \_\_\_\_\_

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.” James 1:12

Do you believe in the goodness of God towards you- even while you suffer? That is the question of our lives while we suffer.

God's goodness and grace- awaits you. He is inviting you to the table where the feasting is. God's heart delights when He sees us push our chair away from the “kiddie table.” Come to the feast of God's grace.

He is calling us to be more than we have become. Because of Christ in us, God uses suffering to transform us from the inside out.

“You make known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” Psalm 16:11

He is longing to give us joy and has eternal pleasure for us- if only we believe enough to hold fast to Christ through the most difficult days of our lives.

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