

Outline for James 1:2-12 ... "Hearing God Over the Storm!"

(1) When you meet the various trials of life, you must listen for God's message of joy, 1:2-4.

(2) If do not hear God speak joy, then ask him for wisdom, 1:5.

- The double-minded person is the person who tries to walk two paths and is torn between two worlds—heaven and earth. Wanting to believe God yet with his allegiance divided, this person is DRIVEN and TOSSED by the the conflicting information. The contrary signals and emotions are too much to process. In this state of instability this person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord.
- "Prey to the shifting winds of motive and desire, (the doubter) wants wisdom from God one day and the wisdom of the world the next" (Douglas Moo).

(3) When you ask God to help you hear his message of joy, be ready to walk only his path, 1:6-8.

(4) God's way is not our way, 1:9-11, cf. Isaiah 55:8-9.

- The contrast of two ways, two thought patterns, two worlds. This world is the world that will be scorched and withered, that loses its beauty and fades away. And, yet, for most people, this is the world in which invest the most.

(5) When our love for God demonstrates itself in obedient faith and endures the trial, we are then able to fully receive the life God would give us, 1:12.

- The word blessed contains two strands of meaning. It means 'happy' in a fairly general sense, but in the more particular sense of 'fulfilled' in cases like Luke 12:37. Along this line, blessed picks up James' teaching in verses 2-4 that persistence through trial brings personal fulfillment and enrichment. In the Beatitudes the Lord Jesus describes a life which is fulfilled and fulfilling because it is under the blessing of God (J.A. Motyer).

THE CROWN OF LIFE: HEARING GOD OVER THE STORM!

__JAMES 1:2-12__

Your road led through the sea, your pathway through the mighty waters
— a pathway no one knew was there!
(Psalm 77:19 NLT)

Do not fear what you are about to suffer.
Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.
(Revelation 2:10 ESV)



CAN YOU HEAR HIM NOW?
WHO DO YOU LISTEN TO DURING THE STORM?