

### James 1:2-4



# James 1

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.





1 "Man who is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. 2 He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue. (Job 14)

10 Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. (Psalm 90)

# Doubting God





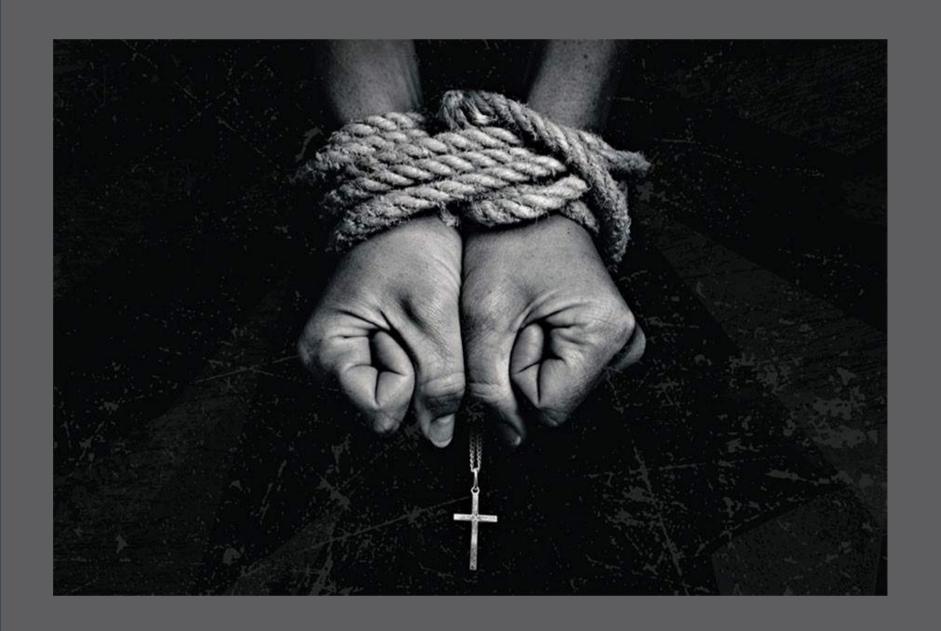
Some sufferers bow their heads and bless the Lord, while others curse Him. Some say, through tears, "I trust you," while others refuse to pray. Some collapse into God's presence, and learn to love him with a broken heart, while others turn their backs and walk away.

**Scott Hubbard** 



### ACTS 8

1 On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.



Consider

A joyful attitude

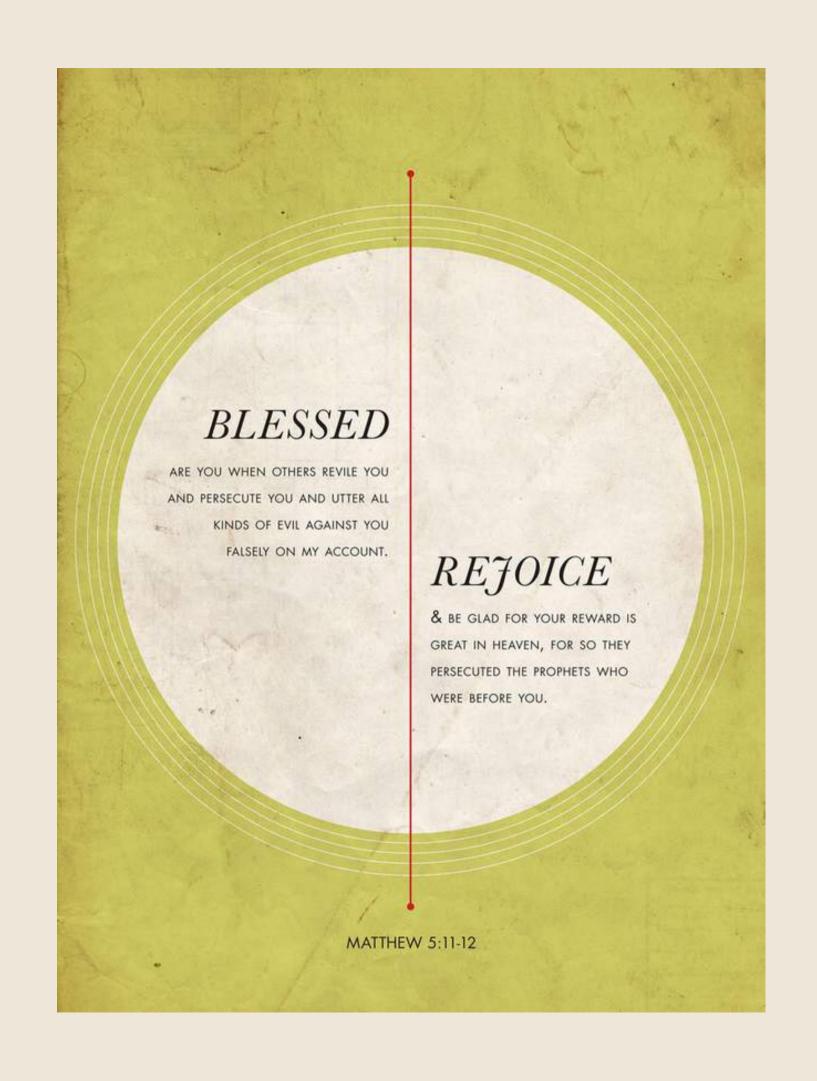


12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

### **Opportunites For Joy**

#### Hebrews 12

10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.



If we value comfort more than character, the trials will upset us. If we value the material and physical more than the spiritual, we will not be able to count it all joy. If we only live for the present and forget the future, then trials will make us bitter, not better.

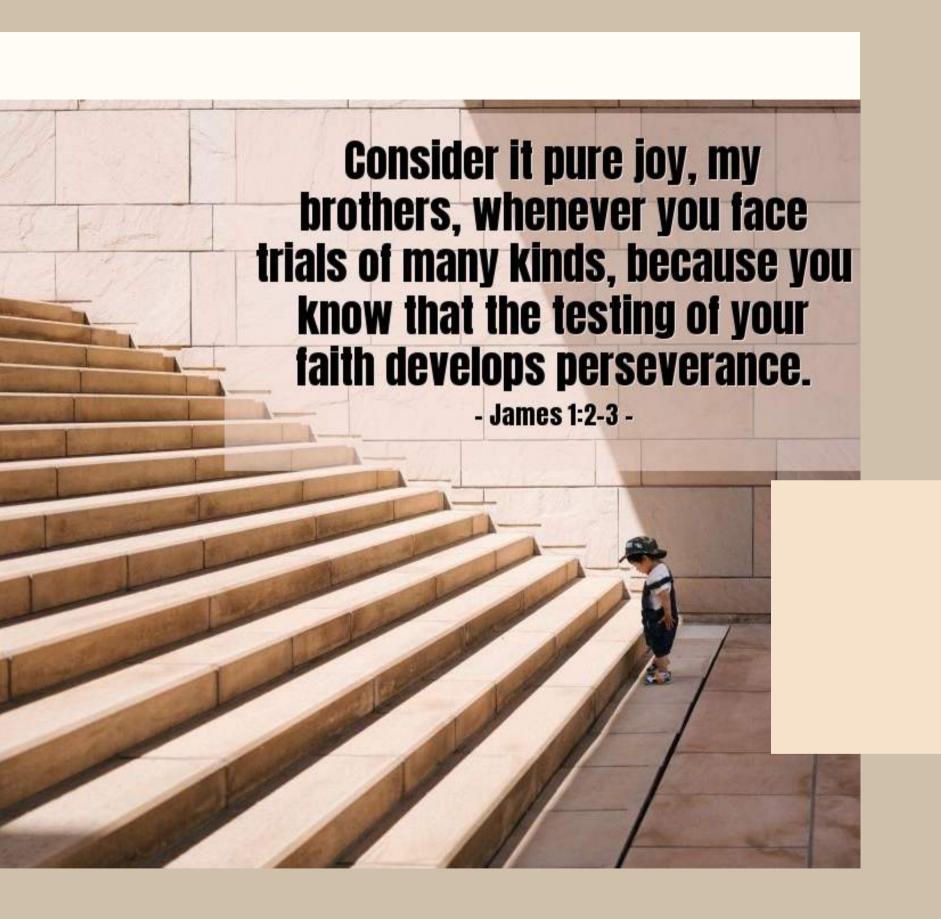
Warren Wiersbe





2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12



## KNOW

### An Understanding Mind

3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

(NASB)

### (1 PETER 1)

6 In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

7 These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire - may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed.





3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.
(James 1, NASB)

12 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



# Let

#### A SURRENDERED WILL

4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

(James 1)



# Spiritual Maturity







### God Takes His Time

#### **ECCLESIASTES 3**

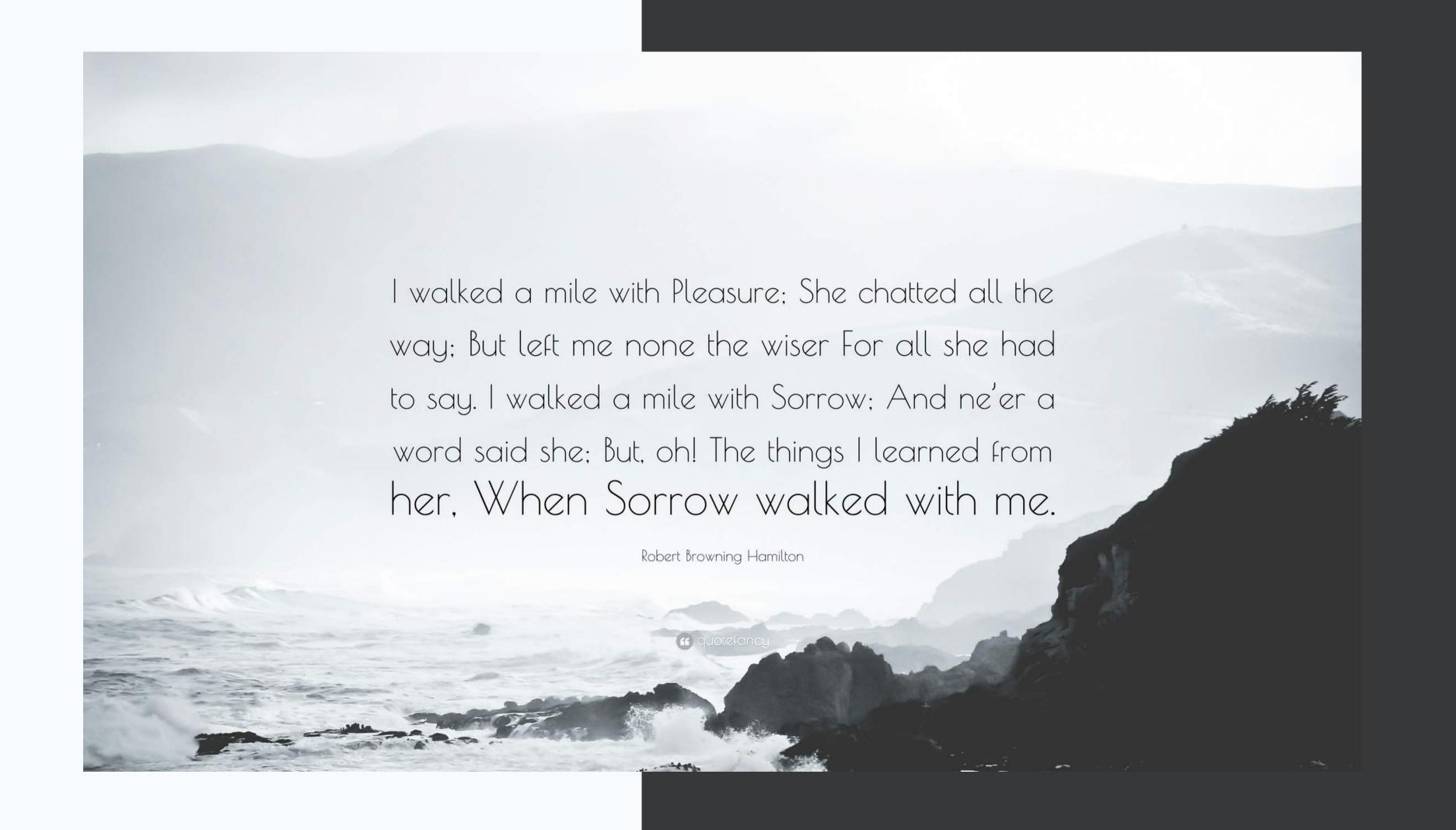
11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

#### **TONY EVANS**

God's Timing Is Always Perfect. Trust His Delays. He's Got You.



# Had I Not Suffered



# A Radical Response To Trials







A JOYFUL ATTITUDE

AN UNDERSTANDING MIND

A SUBMITTED WILL