

# THE TRYING OF YOUR FAITH

---

**James 1:2-4** - <sup>2</sup>Consider it nothing but joy, my <sup>1a</sup>brothers and sisters, whenever you fall into various trials. <sup>3</sup>Be assured that the **testing of your faith** [through experience] **produces endurance** [leading to spiritual maturity, and inner peace]. <sup>4</sup>And let endurance have its perfect result *and* do a thorough work, so that you may be perfect and **completely developed** [in your faith], **lacking in nothing**.

The Psalmist writes – “Many are the afflictions of the righteous but God delivers us out of them all”. **Ps 34:19**

The Apostle Paul prayed for us in his letter to the Ephesians “I do not cease to give thanks for you, **remembering you in my prayers**; <sup>17</sup>[I always pray] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may grant you a spirit of **wisdom** and of **revelation** [that gives you a deep and personal and intimate insight] into the true **knowledge of Him** [for we know the Father through the Son]. <sup>18</sup>And [I pray] that the **eyes of your heart** [the very center and core of your being] **may be enlightened** [flooded with light by the Holy Spirit], so that you will **know and cherish** the <sup>1a</sup>hope [the divine guarantee, the confident expectation] to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the <sup>1a</sup>saints (God’s people), <sup>19</sup>and [so that **you will begin to know**] what the immeasurable *and* unlimited *and* surpassing **greatness of His** [active, spiritual] **power is in us who believe**. These are in accordance with the working of His mighty strength <sup>20</sup>which He <sup>1a</sup>produced in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His own right hand in the heavenly *places*, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion [whether angelic or human], and [far above] every name that is named [above every title that can be conferred], not only in this age *and* world but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And He <sup>1a</sup>put all things [in every realm] in subjection under Christ’s feet, and <sup>1a</sup>appointed Him as [supreme and authoritative] head over all things in the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills *and* completes all things in all [believers].

**Eph 1:16-23** He completed his prayer with this - <sup>14</sup>For this reason [grasping the greatness of this plan by which Jews and Gentiles are joined together in Christ] I bow my knees [in reverence] before the Father [of our Lord Jesus Christ], <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth <sup>1a</sup>derives its name [God—the first and ultimate Father]. <sup>16</sup>May He grant you out of the riches of His glory, **to be strengthened and spiritually energized with power through His Spirit in your inner self**, [indwelling your innermost being and personality], <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through your faith. And may you, having been [deeply] **rooted and** [securely] **grounded in love**, <sup>18</sup>be **fully capable of comprehending with all the saints** (God’s people) the width and length and height and depth of His love [fully experiencing that amazing, endless love]; <sup>19</sup>and [that you may come] to know [practically, through personal experience] the love of Christ which **far surpasses** [mere] **knowledge** [without experience], that you may be **filled up** [throughout your being] **to all the fullness of God** [so that you may have the richest experience of God’s presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself].<sup>20</sup>Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] **do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think** [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], **according to His power that is at work within us**, <sup>21</sup>to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations forever and ever. Amen.

**Eph.3:14-21**

**Conclusion;** The blessings of the Lord it makes rich and adds no sorrow. **Prov.10:22**

When we fully understand this, it’s easy to see why God would allow the testing of our faith ! He wants to bless us abundantly as in the book of Deuteronomy 28 - You *will be* blessed in the city, and you *will be* blessed in the field.

<sup>4</sup>“The <sup>1a</sup>offspring of your <sup>1a</sup>body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your animals, the offspring of your herd and the young of your flock *will be* blessed.

<sup>5</sup>“Your basket and your kneading bowl *will be* blessed.

<sup>6</sup>“You *will be* blessed when you come in and you *will be* blessed when you go out....” **Deut.28:2-13**