

Running With Endurance (Part 4)
Selected Scriptures

3 Keys to Standing Strong in Hardship:

1.) Be P_____ in Contrast to Being C_____ off Guard.

- James 1:2-3
- James doesn't says, "Count it all joy _____ you fall into various trials."
- James instead says, "Count it all joy _____ you fall into various trials."

"If there were one word in the Bible I could change, I know what it would be. Two verses into his epistle, James wrote, 'Consider it all joy, my brethren, *when* you encounter various trials.' How hopeful it would be had (James) used the word *if* instead of *when*. However, James's inspired quill is unmistakable; trials are inevitable. It is not *if* they will come, but *when*. No, I don't really wish it were a different word (because then the blessings of the following verses would be forfeited), but I confess to a hard swallow when I think about this divine guarantee."

– Rick Holland –

- No one is _____ from suffering.
 - A.) G_____ does not exempt a person from suffering.
 - B.) G_____ does not exempt a person from suffering.
 - C.) G_____ does not exempt a person from suffering.
- Because of the reality of suffering and adversity, we as Christians should be _____.
- Proverbs 24:10

"We cannot prepare for a crisis after that crisis occurs. Preparation must take place before we are nose to nose with that issue."

– Charles Swindoll –

2.) Be H_____ in Contrast to Becoming A_____ toward God.

- Trials have the potential to strengthen us and make us better people if we respond _____.
- The example of Job.
- Job 1:22

3.) Be J_____ in Contrast to Becoming B_____ toward life.

- James 1:2-4

- The reason we can have joy in trials is because God uses trials and hardships to _____ our faith and _____ our character.
- Romans 5:3-4
- Romans 8:28-29
- "Trials are the _____ that God uses to shape us into the image of Christ."
 - A Christian can joy in trials because trials are valuable for character building.
- Galatians 5:22 - We need the Spirit's help.
- Philippians 2:12 - We need to choose joy.

Conclusion:

- It is possible for a Christian to s_____ s_____ in the midst of adversity.