

BACK TO SCHOOL: TEST TIME
LEARN TO "ACE" THE TESTS OF LIFE

James 1:1-8, 12

To James, Christianity isn't just a way of T_____, it's a way of L_____.¹

THEME of James: "Be ye doers of the Word, and not _____ only." (1:22)

vs. 2, "Consider it pure _____, whenever you face trials of many kinds..."

Pure _____ = "undiluted O _____".

The question James addresses: How are we to go through trials in a way that honors God and maintains our Christian I _____ and W _____ ?

HOW SOME PEOPLE RESPOND TO "TESTS" IN LIFE:

1. **"Victim"**

- grumble and complain and W _____
- A _____ their problems
- P _____ -P _____
- S _____ -seekers
- The "blame-game"
- Angry-simmerers; prone to B _____ and criticism.

2. **"Denial"**

- doesn't want to _____ about it.
- Try to I _____ the challenge
- They get overly _____ with other things that can distract them: work, relationships, irresponsible activities, substance use.
- All forms of E _____ and denial.

3. **"Defeated"**

- "it _____ what _____"
- Blame _____
- Low S _____ -E _____.
- Tend to give in, give out, or _____.

4. **"Victor"**

¹ Stephen M. Miller, *Guide to the Bible*, 467.

3 LESSONS FOR "ACING" THE TOUGHEST TESTS IN LIFE

1. TESTS GIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR F_____ G_____

What is the one thing God wants most to develop in your faith?

P_____

(GREEK) "hypomomen" = sanctified S_____; someone so firmly
_____ that they are immovable in a _____.

"My Father is always _____, and I too am _____" (JOHN 5:17)

Remember, God is _____ in the situation, but perhaps more
importantly, _____.

2. GOD GIVES _____ TO THOSE WHO ASK

Vs. 5: "*if any of you lacks _____, you should _____, who gives
generously to all without finding fault...*"

Wisdom = the ability to "know C_____ what to do."

God's wisdom = His _____.

The "Condition": _____

Double-minded = *Dipsychos* ; 2 people at once.

3. GOD GIVES _____ TO THOSE WHO P_____.

"crown of life" = the C_____ wreath

THE VICTOR

- Recognizes tests as an opportunity for further spiritual growth
- Asks God for wisdom, with unwavering faith that He will give it.
- Perseveres with sanctified stubbornness, pressing on with Christ-like integrity -- looking forward to the crowning day!