

INTRODUCTION

- * Last week, in our study of the book of James, we considered what it meant to "Count it all joy WHEN you fall into various trials." We saw that the word for "joy" actually DOES mean to be gleeful and happy. We saw that the term for "testing" means to be tested and proven as genuine, real, or legitimate. We also discussed that the Greek word for "patience" used here is the word "hupomonae" which literally means "to remain under." Hence, the assaying of our faith, through trials which determine it's genuineness, actually help to cause our faith to be matured and complete in order that it is not lacking in any manner.
- * If, as we are engaging the trial, we recognize that we lack the wisdom to deal with it, we are instructed to ask God for wisdom in how to handle it because He has promised to liberally give wisdom to all who seek it!
- * Last week, we purposefully skipped over a critical word in our study in order to deal with it more fully in this message. It is the word translated as "trial" in verse 2. The Greek Word is *peirasmos*. It is literally, "a troublesome situation." These situations, as we see in this passage, can either strengthen your faith or reveal your need for confession, cleansing and sanctification. Most translators choose to translate the word two different ways in this passage - trials and temptations; but, it is the SAME word!
- * God has much to say, through James, in a short space, regarding His and our relationship to the *peirasmoi* with which we meet.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE E _____ (v. 12)

A. The C _____ (cf. 1 Peter 4:12-14)

B. The C _____

- * (cf. James 1:12; Revelation 2:10; 3:11; 4:10 ... 1 Corinthians 9:25-27; ... 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Peter 5:4)

C. The C _____

II. THE E _____ (v. 13-15)

A. Concerning God

1. GOD C _____ PEIRAZO'D (cf. Matthew 4:1,3; 1 Corinthians 10:8-10; Exodus 17:2,7 Heb 2:18; 4:15 ... Hebrews 3:8-9)
2. GOD D _____ PEIRAZO PEOPLE (cf. Matthew 6:1; Genesis 22:1; John 6:6; Deuteronomy 8:2; 8:16; 13:3)

B. Concerning Man

1. THE ORIGIN:
 - * cf. Matthew 26:41; Mark 14:38; 1 Corinthians 7:5
 - * cf. Luke 22:40-46 (v. 31-34, 40-46; 54-62)
2. THE PROCESS
 - * cf. Luke 22:15; 1 Peter 1:12-14
 - * cf. Galatians 5:16-25; 1 John 2:15-17; Romans 6:23

INTROSPECTION

- * How do you respond to troublesome situations in your life? What are they revealing about your faith?
- * Is there sin, or sinful thought processes, in your life that you need to confess?
- * What are you intensely passionate about?
- * Are you intensely passionate about seeing God glorified or yourself satisfied?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * What affect do our "passionate desires" have upon our evangelistic efforts? How are the "collective" passionate desires of the "church" revealed in a local assembly? If Christ were to write a letter to us, as He did to the seven churches in the book of Revelation, what would He declare regarding our passions?