



Series: Living Wisely in Turbulent Times

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Living Wisely in Turbulent Times | A Study in James 1

PART I: PURE JOY

SCRIPTURE: JAMES 1:1-4

key theme: We are to have Pure Joy when facing trials. Pure joy is more than a feeling but a fruit of the Spirit that expresses our faith in God and our delight in the plans of God being advanced in the earth.

- 1) Pure joy is the finding of fulfillment, delight and happiness in the plans of God being advanced in your life and in the life of others.
- 2) Our goal in the Christian race is to grow towards maturity in Christ Jesus.
 - a. When we make anything else our main goal for running the Christian race, it is like running aimlessly.
 - b. Maturity is the process of natural growth and development towards a final or desired state.
 - c. God wants to purify us into his image and likeness so that we can become a people that are his very own
- 3) You cannot get to maturity without perseverance; you cannot get to perseverance without faith; and you cannot get to faith without trials of many kinds.
 - a. Perseverance means steadfastness or endurance in the face of difficulties
 - b. Faith is the trusting in the character and nature of God to bring you through the circumstances that you are facing.
- 4) Pure Joy is more than an emotion. Pure Joy is an expression of faith.

thoughts for further study

- 1) How can you distinguish between pure joy and earthly joy?
- 2) What is your goal and motivation in the Christian race? Are you focused on the right things?
- 3) How does pure joy express itself in the day-to-day experience of turbulent times?

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