

Chapter Five
Finding Joy in Trials

There should be no surprise in our suffering on this Earth. We are a people under affliction and penalty for living in a sinful world. Likewise, there should be no surprise that we can find joy amidst our trials, for our God is a faithful and merciful God. Our joy rests in Him and cannot be thwarted by any trial. Yes, “Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning” (Psalm 30:5).

Read James 1:2-4.

Are we filled with joy because of our trial or despite our trial? Where does this joy come from?

What is the ultimate goal of a trial?

What should our perspective be when we are facing trials?

Read Job 1 and 2.

Who draws Satan’s attention to Job? Why?

Does it seem harsh that God would draw Satan’s attention to Job?

What was Job’s response to the loss of property and the death of his children? See Job 1:20.

Did God give Job a reason for why he suffered? Is God obligated to give us reasons for suffering? Explain.

Which attribute(s) of God is displayed in Job 38-42? How can that attribute provide us with comfort during a difficult trial?

Personal Reflection

Consider your own personal trial. In what ways could God be “completing or perfecting” you?