James Chapter 1

You Know You Do

Introduction

Trials such as:

sickness

disease,

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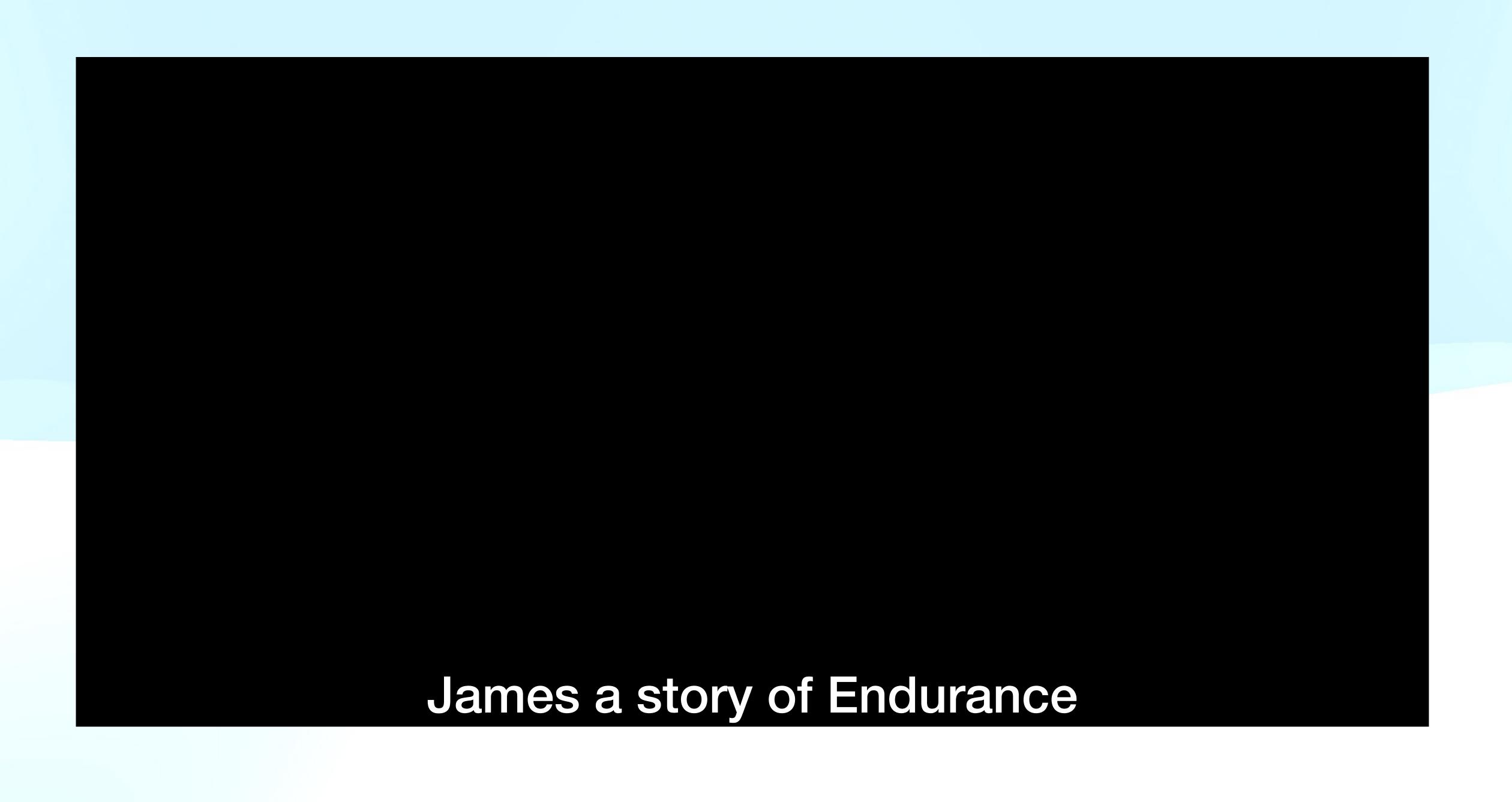
Introduction: trials such as: sickness, disease, accidents, disappointments, sorrows
suffering
death
temptations

What we need is a guaranteed way to conquer all the trials and temptations of life.

This is the glorious message of this passage: there is a way to conquer and triumph in this life, no matter how severe the trial or temptation.

What is the way? It is possessing a spirit of joy and perseverance as we face the trials and temptations of life.

Attitude: How we face things



Trials Temptations We will have many

The Greek word for temptations: peirasmos

- -tempt
- -to try
- -to test
- -to prove

That is, the temptations and trials of life are to prove us: they are for a beneficial purpose; they are permitted by God for a good purpose. His purpose.

When we triumphantly go through the trials of life, we become a much stronger person more steadfast, enduring, and persevering

When we stand up against trials and temptations, we become a dynamic witness to all those who see us: we demonstrate the living presence and power of Christ—that

God wants us to face the temptations and trials of life and to conquer them, and by conquering them to become much more like Christ and to make Christ more fully known to the world.

But we must always remember: no matter what the trial or temptation, it is for our good and for our benefit. It is to help us

God allows trials and temptations to make us more and more like Jesus.

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Co. 4:17).

"Now no chastening [trial] for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (He. 12:11).

Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy" (Js. 5:11).

"But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Jb. 23:10). Trials—Temptations—Joy: the attitude needed to face the trials and temptations of life is startling—it is joy. We are to face trial and temptation with a spirit of joy. How is this possible? How can a believer be joyful ...

 when facing such trials as disease, accidents, pain, sorrows, disappointments, suffering, pain, and death?

 when facing the seductions of temptations? Joy is usually not what fills our heart when we face these things.

When severe trials come our way, too often

When severe trials come our way, too often we despair and become discouraged and defeated.

Most of us certainly do not joy.

Scripture we must know something.

We must do something.

What does it look like?

1. We must know something: know that trials and temptations work patience (v. 3).

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We must know what point one stressed: that trials and temptations are not to defeat to discourage us

We must do something: we must let patience work within us.

It means far more than just bearing and putting up with the trials and temptations

More than just bearing and putting up trials temptations

More than following the advice of medicine and psychology:

To take it easy; to be calm; to relax in stressful situations.

It means far more than learning to deny the existence of trials and temptations.

To persevere and keep on persevering, never giving in.

When we look at trials and temptations as opportunities, then we will begin to face them in joy. And when we begin to persevere and conquer them, then we will begin to walk through them in the joy of the Lord.

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Co. 10:13).

Wisdom
That's the key.