James 1:1-2

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. ² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds

Trials Come to Everyone

- You may not see them coming.
- They come in many forms.
- They come from many directions.

Trials Lead to the Birth of Something Greater
James 1:2-3

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds ³ BECAUSE YOU KNOW that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

Trials Lead to the Birth of Something Greater

- Trials purify my life.

Trials Lead to the
Birth of Something Greater
Job 23:10

But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

Trials Lead to the Birth of Something Greater

- Trials purify my life.
- Trials temper my life.

Trials Lead to the
Birth of Something Greater
James 1:4

Perseverance MUST finish its work SO THAT you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Trials Lead to the Birth of Something Greater

- Trials purify my life.
- Trials temper my life.
- Trials mature my life.

"This is the hardest duty that ever was required of the distressed hearts of men. And yet God would not require it if it were not attainable."

Thomas Goodwin

"Joy" Emerges . . .

- As we hunger for what could be.

"Joy" Emerges . . .

John 16:20-21

[20] I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. [21] A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world.

"Joy" Emerges . . .

- As we hunger for what could be.
- As we delight in our Father's heart.

"Joy" Emerges . . .

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 FOR our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an ETERNAL GLORY that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

"Joy" Emerges . . .

- As we hunger for what could be.
- As we delight in our Father's heart.
- As we are encouraged by significant others.