

## The Missing Ingredient in our Trials James 1:2

How do you survive the pressure of a trial? By the Missing ingredient = Joy. We are told to, “Count it all Joy.”

“**count**” = think forward, consider, regard. “As you live in the present, consider the future, think forward to the future. Gloom now, but glory in the day to come.”<sup>1</sup>

### **PRINCIPLE: JOY IS THE FORCE THAT DRAWS YOU TO THINK BEYOND YOUR TRIAL.**

*Hebrews 12:2 “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Romans 8:18, Philippians 3:7-10)*

**Quote:** “...when trials arise, we have a choice about how to respond to them: as a burden or a bridge. We can see them as weights that depress us and keep us discouraged, or as conduits that the Lord works through to develop us into who He wants us to become and to deepen our intimate relationship with Him.” – Charles Stanley<sup>2</sup>

How does Joy help you think beyond the current situation to something greater?

- **Joy is \_\_\_\_\_ in God’s Presence**

*Psalm 16:11 “...in thy presence is fulness of joy”*

*Acts 2:28 “Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.”*

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<sup>1</sup> Zodiates, Spiros. *The Behavior of Belief*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing co., 1959.

<sup>2</sup> Stanley, Charles. *Courageous Faith*. New York, NY: Howard Books, 2016.

- **Joy Remains Full when \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ**

*John 15:11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*

**Quote:** “with our feet on Calvary, our eyes on the Father’s countenance, and our hands helping sinners home, we have His joy as our own.” – Andrew Murray<sup>3</sup>

- **Joy \_\_\_\_\_ Internal Pressure**

*I Peter 1:7-8 “That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory”*

- **Joy \_\_\_\_\_ you against Enemies**

*John 16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.*

- **Joy \_\_\_\_\_ the Seasons of Life**

*Psalm 30:5 “...weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning.”*

*Psalm 126:5-6 “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”*

<sup>3</sup> Murray, Andrew. *Abide In Christ*. St. Louis, MO: Mlracle Press, n.d.