



## A TRUE CONTRADICTION

STRUGGLING WELL MAKES ME WHOLE

Consider it pure joy, my brothers,  
whenever you face trials of many kinds...

James 1:2

**Whenever you face trials of many kinds...**

*I messed up.*

*You messed up.*

*Did God mess up?*

PERSONAL NATURE OF TRIALS

**What challenges me may not challenge you.**

## THE FRUIT OF THE TEST

...because you know  
that the testing of your faith  
develops perseverance.

James 1:3

## THE “PERFECT” WORK OF PERSEVERANCE

Perseverance must finish its [perfect] work  
so that you may be mature [perfect]  
and complete [whole],  
not lacking anything.

James 1:4

## WAITING WELL

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming.

See how the farmer waits for the land  
to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is  
for the autumn and spring rains.

<sup>8</sup>You too, be patient and stand firm,  
because the Lord's coming is near.

<sup>9</sup>Don't grumble against each other,  
brothers, or you will be judged.

The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup>Brothers, as an example of patience  
in the face of suffering,  
take the prophets who spoke  
in the name of the Lord.

<sup>11</sup>As you know, we consider blessed  
those who have persevered.

You have heard of Job's perseverance and  
have seen what the Lord finally brought about.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

James 5:7-11

**Focus on the harvest.**

**Avoid grumbling and blaming.**

**Consider the example of others.**

## NEXT STEPS

*Suggested Reading:*

*An Honest Look* by John Stumbo

*August 4/5, 2012*