

Trial by Fire

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James 1:2-4

1:2 My brother and sisters, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

1:3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

1:4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Why rejoice in the midst of trials ?

1. One must view trials as a means of moral and spiritual growth.
2. We do not rejoice in the trial itself, but in the possible results.
3. Testing carries the idea of proving genuineness.
4. Trials serve as a discipline to purge faith of dross, stripping away what is false.

Various REFINMENT Scriptures

Psa 66:10 For you, O God, tested us; you **REFINED** us like silver.

Isa 48:10 See, I have **REFINED** you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

Dan 12:10 Many will be purified, made spotless and **REFINED**, but the wicked will continue to be wicked.

Zec 13:9 This third I will bring into the fire; I will **REFINE** them like silver and test them like gold.

Mal 3:3 He will sit as a **REFINER** and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and **REFINE** them like gold and silver.

Daniel 3:19-21

- 19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and his attitude toward them changed. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual
- 20 and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.
- 21 So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace.

Daniel 3:22-25

- 3:22 Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego.
- 3:23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.
- 3:24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste *and* spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?" They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."
- 3:25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

John 16:33 (NKJV)

16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Job 1:20-21 (NKJV)

1:20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

1:21 And he said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; Blessed be the name of the LORD."