

# Keep on Keepin' on Through Trials

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June 30, 2020

Keep On Keepin' On Pt. 5

Main Passage: James 1:2-4

**James 1:2-4**, *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. 4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

**Tough times are GROWING times.**

**Trial:** subjection to suffering or grievous experiences the act of trying, testing, or putting to the proof

**Greek Translation:** *Pay-ya-vas-mos* - to try to learn the nature or character of someone or something by submitting such to thorough and extensive testing

*Philosophy may instruct men to be calm under their troubles; but Christianity teaches them to be joyful, because such exercises proceed from love and not fury in God.*

- Matthew Henry Commentary, James 1

**We learn something about OURSELVES.**

**Lamentations 3:40**, *Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD.*

**Galations 6:4**, *Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else*

**2 Corinthians 13:5**, *Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you —unless, of course, you fail the test?*

**We learn something about our FAITH.**

**Psalms 34:15**, *The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry; 16 but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to blot out their name from the earth. 17 The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. 18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. 19 The righteous person may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all; 20 he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.*

**We learn that God wants us TO GROW STRONGER IN HIM.**

**Ephesians 6:10**, *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.*

**Habakkuk 3:19**, *The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.*

**Perseverance**: steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement.