

# Our Greatest Battle | James 1:12-15

*We especially encourage you to use your own Bible during the sermon and highly recommend a Study Bible (Ryrie and MacArthur are especially recommended). Pastor Stephen preaches from the ESV. Additionally, if you are looking for a good Bible app, we recommend the Literal Word app, or the Logos Bible or Olive Tree apps.*

## Introduction:

**BIG IDEA:** Blessed is the one who \_\_\_\_\_ God's love to Him through \_\_\_\_\_ in trial rather than \_\_\_\_\_ from God in \_\_\_\_\_. For their faithfulness will be met with \_\_\_\_\_.

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ our trials to help us become more like Him.
2. The Devil tries to \_\_\_\_\_ trials to tempt us away from God.
3. The blessed one runs to God in \_\_\_\_\_ instead of running from God in \_\_\_\_\_.

## **How Do I Become a Christian?**

Do you know for sure that you're a Christian? Being a Christian is more than just going to church or doing good deeds (although that's fruit of true Christianity). It means being a born-again follower of Jesus Christ by faith alone. This occurs in three steps:

1. Recognizing that you're a sinner, one who cannot earn a place in Heaven based on your own good deeds. Having fallen short of God's Holy standard, you deserve judgment: death and eternity in Hell (Rom. 3:23; Ps. 53:5; Rom. 6:23; Lk. 12:4-5).
2. Acknowledging that God graciously loved you by sending His Son Jesus Christ—God in human flesh—to fulfill His Holy Law on your behalf and die a sinner's death on your behalf, rising on the third day (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Rom. 8:32; 1 John 4:9-10).
3. Trusting Christ alone for your salvation by repenting from your life of sin and following Him as both Savior and Master of your life. If you believe this in your heart and confess this to God with your mouth, you will be saved (Rom. 10:9; Matt. 16:23-26).