Is Any among You Sick?

The book of James: Perseverance through times of Adversity

Perseverance is maintaining our focus on the promises of God in times of **adversity**, and not allowing **adversity** to be converted into **stress** in our soul.

Adversity is inevitable, but **stress** is optional.

Adversity is what circumstances do to us, and **stress** is what we do to ourselves

The theme throughout James is how to endure in times of adversity, and suffering.

James 1:1 - 4 (NKJV)
1 James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad: Greetings.
2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
knowing that the testing of your faith produces
PATIENCE

as in conquered (hypomonē), **to** (eis) **patience** (hypomonē) **in** (kai) **accepted** (dokimion) **of** (ho) **faith** (pistis) **is** (katergazomai) **the** (ho) **trial** (peirasmos) **your** (humon) **brothers** (adelphos) **joy** (pasa chara) **count** (hegeomai)

This is why it's vitally important that we have a precise understanding of the word of God.

Revelation 1:3 (NKJV)
3 Blessed is he who
reads, and those who
hear the words of this
prophecy, and keep those
things which are written in
it; for the time is near.

Please remember, we are in a spiritual war.

It's impossible to understand a passage outside of its context

→ **Literary structure of James: context context context**

The theme throughout the entire epistle of **James** is **perseverance in times of adversity**.

This theme is expressed in the outline of **James 1:19**

James 1:19 (NKJV)
19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be:
1. swift to hear, — Being ready to listen to the truth, learning such a new mental application, that we grow
2. slow to speak, — Having a practical knowledge of the truth
3. slow to wrath; — Mental attitude, etc. that yielding the sin of the tongue

The idea is that we must be careful that we don't let our entitlement or intellectual stimulation, interrupt our spiritual growth.

BY DESPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, JAMES WILL USE AN ILLUSTRATION AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THE MAIN POINT

James begins his conclusion by returning to his opening theme of patience and endurance.

James 5:7-10 (NKJV)
7 Therefore be **patient**, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See
how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, **patiently** waiting for it until he receives the early and the latter rain.

James illustrates the following **patience** with the opening **patient** and ending **patient** with the farmer **patiently** waiting and latter rain

patient (makrothymeō) - verb, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patient (makrothymia) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patient (makrothymos) - adjective
patient (makrothymia) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patient (makrothymos) - adjective
patient (hypomonē) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patient (hypomonē) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative

patiently (makrothymeō) - verb, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative

1. **patient** — Be patient and endure the coming of the Lord is at hand
2. **patient** — Be patient and endure the coming of the Lord is at hand
3. **patient** — Be patient and endure the coming of the Lord is at hand

at this day, **patient** (makrothymeō) **patiently** (makrothymeō) **for the coming of the Lord is at hand**

7b, 10 empirically (kathōs) to cause someone to become strong in the sense of more firm and unchanging in attitude or belief - to strengthen, to make firm/fixed.

8 You also **patient** (makrothymeō) **patiently** (makrothymeō) **for the coming of the Lord is at hand**

9 Do not, brothers, complain one against another, brothers, lest you be condemned. Behold, the judge is standing at the door!

10 My brothers, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as **an example** of suffering and **patience**.

brothers (adelphos) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patience (makrothymia) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
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patience (makrothymia) - noun, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
patiently (makrothymeō) - verb, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative

James is not consulting or even suggesting a new scripture, but reminiding us of what we have learned.

patiently (makrothymeō) - verb, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative

11 Indeed we count them blessed who **endure**. You have heard of the **endurance** of Job and have seen the end intended by the Lord, because the Lord is very compassionate and merciful.

endure (hypomenō) - verb, 1st pers. sing. present active indicative
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