



**The Big Question: How should we handle the trials of life?**

**1.) Don't \_\_\_\_\_! (v. 2-4)**

- God's first purpose for us in the tests of life is not to give up.
- The tests of life can be "pure joy" because, as we battle through them, God is accomplishing purposes that matter forever.
- Every trial is an opportunity for \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 5:3-5, James 1:12).

**2.) \_\_\_\_\_ God. (v. 5)**

- The very nature of a test is to inspire questions.
- God always gives us exactly what we would give ourselves if we knew everything He knows and sees everything He sees.
- God is always ready to give us wisdom.

**3.) \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word. (v. 6-8)**

- The degree to which we believe is most easily seen in the degree to which we obey (John 14:15).
- v. 6-7 - The perils of the one who asks God but does not obey God:
  - He is wasting his time (James 1:22-24).
  - He is "double-minded" (Luke 6:46).
  - He is unstable (Matthew 7:24-27).
- In contrast, the one who perseveres, seeks God, and obeys God's Word is immeasurably \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 1:1-3, James 1:25).

## Summary

- When the tests and trials of life com (and they surely will): (1) Don't quit! (2) Ask God. (3) Obey God's Word.
- Need answers? Ask God!