

October 8, 2017

A FAITH THAT WORKS: HARD TIMES
James 1:1-4

Reality. James 1:2

- Hard times are a by-product of **life**. James 1:2; 1 Pet. 1:6; 4:12; 2 Cor. 11:23-27; Luke 11:11-17; Mark 5:25-43; John 5:1-9
- Hard times are no respecter of **persons** (hope). James 1:2, 10; 19:2-11; 2 Cor. 11:23-27; Phil. 3:4-6

Reasons. James 1:2-4

- To get our **attention**. James 1:2-4; Mark 5:25-44; 2 Cor. 12:1-10; Luke 11:11-17; John 11:38-45; 2 Sam. 11-15
- Not to just **read** about but to experience the hard times. James 1:3; 2 Cor. 11:23-27; 4:6-7; Matt. 26:67; 27:27-46; Luke 11:11-17; John 11:1-43; 2 Tim. 2:8-13
- To grow our **faith** during and after hard times. James 1:3-4; Heb. 12:1; John 19:30; Luke 23:46; Ps. 40:1-2; 2 Tim. 2:8-13; 2 Thess. 1:3-4; 3:25; 1 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:12-17

Response. James 1:2-3

- Turn **away** from God. 2 Tim. 6:10; Matt. 26:47-50, 56; 1 Sam. 18:11; 19:10; 20:33; 1 Kin. 11:2-9
- Turn **toward** God. James 1:2-3; Heb. 12:1-2; Phil. 4:11-12; 4:4, 6; 1 Pet. 3:14-15; 4:14; 1 Thess. 5:18