

The way of salvation is ALWAYS by God's grace and offered through faith in person and work of Jesus Christ Ephesians 2:8-10

Being transformed and conformed to the image of God requires believers to put-off sinful practices and put-on new Godly ones

I Corinthians 6:20 James 1:1



"Bond-Servant" = one who is subservient; entirely at the disposal of his master



In the Mosaic Law, it allowed for an indentured servant to voluntarily remain on as a bond-servant (Exodus 21:2 and 5-6)

Voluntarily entrusting every aspect of our lives into God's hands and once willingly surrendered this was permanent

James opens this letter to other believers by highlighting his position, which was their shared position, bond-servant

UNDER PRESSURE

James 1:1 Acts 8:1-3



This intense persecution, which threatened the believers in Jerusalem, caused them to flee and scatter for their own safety

"Dispersed Abroad" = carries the idea of seeds being scattered (like a farmer throwing seeds for planting)

God used this persecution to spread the seed of the gospel

Acts 1:8



God sometimes allows these pressures into our lives to expose unaddressed dormant heart level issues

How can I exalt God in this exhausting situation?

James 1:1



"Greetings" = salutations; be well; thrive; rejoice exceedingly



God wants us to focus on our Savior trust Him and realize these trials AREN'T pointless there's a purpose