

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for March 14-15, 1998**

**"Turning Trials into Triumph"**

**Dale Whitehead**

**James 1:1-12**

The first test of living faith is "The Response to Trials Test".

True believers when they undergo trials will endure. Those who are not true believers, who do not possess living or saving faith will not endure (James 1:12).

Those who have a genuine or saving faith will in the midst of their trials persevere in manifesting a real and genuine love for Christ (James 1:12).

If we see ourselves persevering in our love for Jesus no matter what happens to us we need to consider ourselves blessed (James 1:12).

The word "blessed" (MAKARIOS) means "happy" or "fortunate". It implies a congratulatory element as recognizing the desirability of the condition (James 1:12).

The word "approved" (DOKIMOS) was used of the testing of coins and metals to establish their genuineness.

The "crown of life" describes the Christian's final reward in heaven. The word for "crown" (STEPHANOS) refers to a victors crown.