



**07-25-2021**

### **Living With Gratitude: The Lord Has Made Me Strong**

**James 1:2-4** - *Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. <sup>3</sup> For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. <sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.*

**Meet The Worst That Life Gives You With Joy**

**Genuine Faith Gives Us The Ability To Respond To The Difficult Events Of Life With A Different Perspective**

**Trials Can Bring About Growth**

**God's Purpose Through Our Struggle Is To Develop Maturity In Us**

**What May Look Hopeless Or Impossible To Us Never Looks That Way To God**

**THE GIVER OVER THE GIFT**

**1 Samuel 2:1** - *Then Hannah prayed: "My heart rejoices in the Lord! The Lord has made me strong. Now I have an answer for my enemies; I rejoice because you rescued me.*

**Hannah Glorified God With Thanksgiving And Gratitude**

**Acts 5:41** - *The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.*

**FROM GRIEF TO GRATITUDE**

**1 Samuel 1:9-11, 17-18** - *Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. <sup>10</sup> Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> And she made this vow: "O Lord of Heaven's Armies, if you will look*

*upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the Lord, his hair will never be cut.”*

**1 Samuel 1:9-11, 17-18** - *Eli said, “go in peace! May the God of Israel grant the request you have asked of him.”*<sup>18</sup> *“Oh, thank you, sir!” she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad.*

**Believing God At His Word Has A Way Of Encouraging The Heart In The Midst Of Difficulties**