



# Toward an Understanding of Pain and Suffering

## Week 8 – James 1:1-4

James 1:22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves. (NASB)

1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings.

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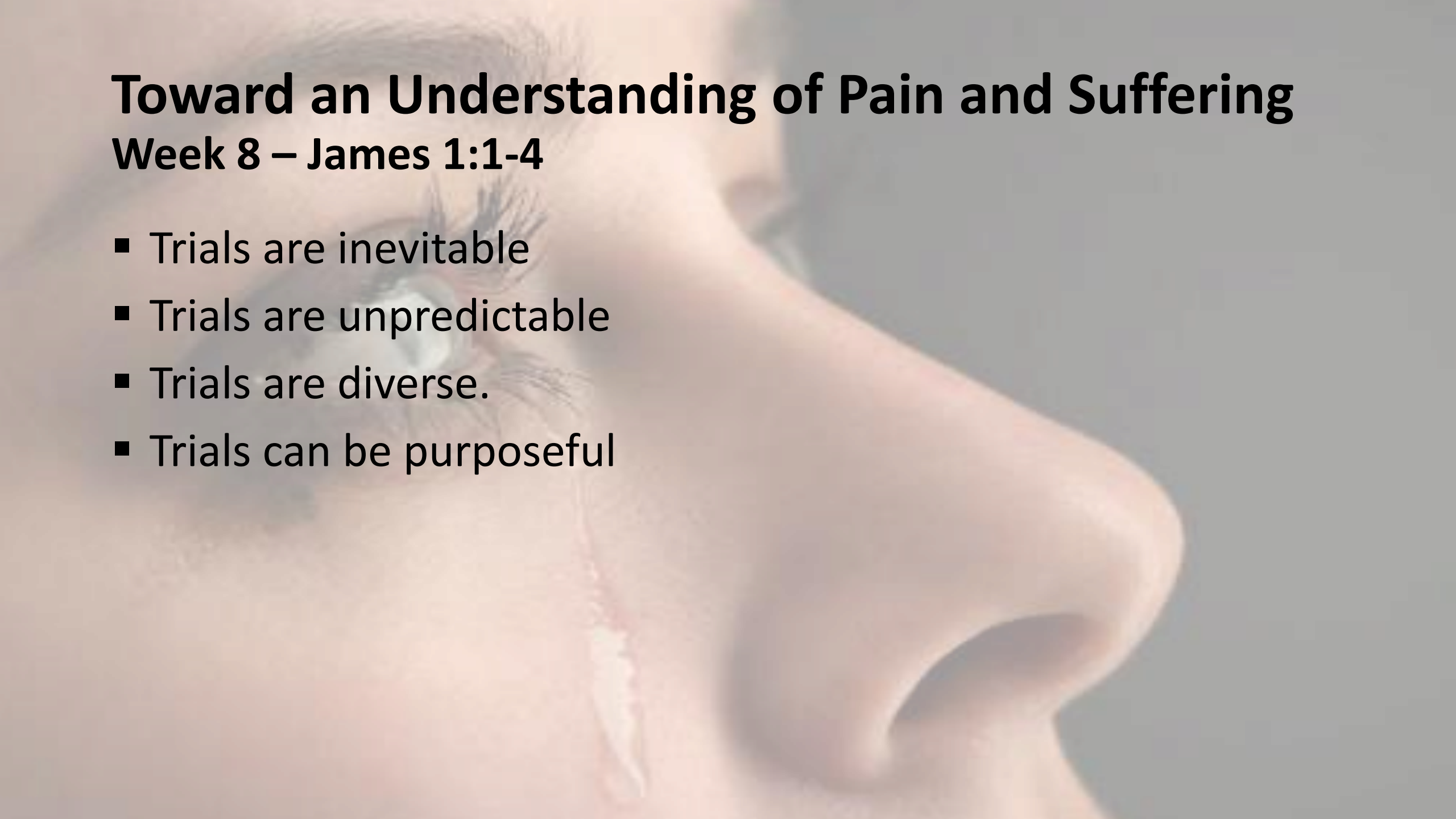
## Week 8 – James 1:1-4

<sup>1:2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

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- Trials are inevitable
- Trials are unpredictable
- Trials are diverse.
- Trials can be purposeful



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### Three purposes of trials:

#### 1) *Trials can purify our faith*

- Do you believe that I am in control?
- Do you believe that I am good—no matter what you see or face?
- Will you wait on me by faith until the darkness becomes light?

Psalm 27:13 *I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.*

A close-up, soft-focus photograph of a person's face, primarily showing the right side. The eye is looking slightly upwards and to the right. The nose is prominent in the foreground. The lighting is gentle, creating a contemplative and serene atmosphere. The background is a plain, light color.

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2) Trials fortify our patience

3) Trials sanctify our character