

**Contextual Definition—Exegesis: Joy**  
(Summer, 2021)

Word Strong # Transliteration	Gloss	Context Definition
<p>James 1:2            My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; (KJV).  <b>My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, (NKJV).</b></p>		
<p>Joy G5479 <i>charan</i></p>	<p>Gladness</p>	<p>Joy</p> <p><b>Behind the Text</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>James asks the assembly of believers to evaluate how they look at trials. Count it all joy requires the believer make a moral judgment of rejoicing in response to Christian suffering. It defines the believer's response to God's testing. Therefore, the command affects how believers think towards divers temptations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Within the Text</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cause or occasion of joy (BLB.org), object of Christ's 'joy; where it is connected with falling into trials (Vine's).</li> <li>The first commandment James announced to the audience, joy extends beyond gladness, happiness, or pleasure, rather an occasion of joy as it results from divine temptations (Key Word Study Bible, p.2275.)</li> <li>All modifies joy influencing the degree and expanse of its meaning. One may rephrase "all joy" as entirely as joy, nothing but joy, or a pure joy (1:2a). It runs opposite of no joy, a little joy, some joy, or pretend joy.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The text does not exhort the believer experiencing trials to rebel against God, become defiant, work on your own power, grumble, pity yourself, solicit sympathy from others in response to it (Heb 12:1; 1 Cor 10:10; <i>Believer's Bible, E-Sword</i>).</li></ul> <p><b>Cross References</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The text does not exhort the believer experiencing trials to rebel against God, become defiant, work on your own power, grumble, pity yourself, solicit sympathy from others in response to it (Heb 1:5; 12:1; 1 Cor 10:10).</li><li>• The believer retains a sense of contentment from Christ's sufficiency (Phil 4:13).</li><li>• Further, you have joy knowing a sovereign God controls the temptations. In Acts 5:41, Peter and a John, "departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name." Rejoicing (Greek: <i>chairō</i>) is a form of the joy resulting from the trying of faith from suffering shame.</li></ul> <p><b>Four-Sentence Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Joy comes from Christ and connects to the falling into trials (temptations)</li><li>• This type of joy extends beyond gladness, happiness, or pleasure—It comes from the decision to let the joy of Christ reside in believers during times of trials where they find their strength from God.</li><li>• The 'all' preceding joy means entirely joy, nothing but joy, or a pure joy (1:2a). It runs contrary to no joy, a little joy, some joy, or pretend joy.</li><li>• Acts 5:41 shows having joy amid suffering shame from His Name.</li></ul>
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