Our context:

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds..." (1:2)

In moving 'from trial to testimony,' our goal is to see God glorified as he works in us and through us. So how can we manage the trial toward that end?

(Additional reading: Job 1 -2)

FROM VERSES 1-19

- Don't be too quick to squirt out from under the trial
- Trust that God is working in it
- Strive for teachability during the test
- Don't accuse God of wrongdoing, but lean into Him and enjoy His steadfastness as it seems all else is shaking

THE PRACTICE OF OUR PROFESSION: CRISIS MANAGEMENT

James 1:19-27

Is this great counsel most days? Absolutely, but we can't overlook the context of the confusion, pain, and chaos of suffering under trial

Ps. 141

Ps. 19:14

Matt 12:33-34

(2 Cor. 10:3-5; Rom. 12:2)

Man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

Is there such a thing as 'righteous anger?'
Sure, but it often isn't expressed in a righteous way

Eph. 4:26-27; 29-32

Genesis 4:1-7

A trial is a great time to do some soul-searching, ridding ourselves of any moral filth that will only complicate the trial and hinder spiritual growth and development.

Trials DO have a way of humbling us.

James calls us to take that humble, teachable spirit and submit to the truth of God's word. (Ps. 119; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

VSS. 22-25

"Don't just listen to the word of God. Do what it says" (the 'hearer' is similar to one who 'audits' a class)

Is this always good counsel?

Absolutely.

Does it seem even more vital in trial? Consider Joshua 1:1-9; Luke 6:46-49

THE TONGUE IN TRIAL VS. 26

The fact that James revisits this now (and will again later in his epistle) shouts to us in regard to how necessary it is to 'watch' our mouths. Trials make us especially vulnerable to putting our witness at great risk ('worthless religion')

Eph. 4:29

James 3:1-12

A great prescription when we're weary and wounded from battling through trials of many kinds:

Invest in the wounded and broken.

Seek out the sick and imprisoned.

Feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

Care for them in Christ's name.

Matt. 25:31-46