

A wide-angle photograph of a rugged coastline under a heavy, overcast sky. The dark, grey clouds dominate the upper half of the frame. Below them, the ocean is a deep, turbulent blue, with white-capped waves crashing against the dark, craggy rocks of the cliff face. The foreground consists of a steep, rocky slope covered in sparse, green vegetation and patches of orange lichen. The overall mood is somber and powerful.

Faith that Stands the Test

James 1:2-12

What does it mean
to have **faith**
in Jesus?

###

2 Consider it **pure joy**, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you face **trials** of many kinds,
3 because you know that the
testing of your faith produces **perseverance**.

4 Let perseverance **finish** its work
so that you may be **mature** and **complete**,
not **lacking** anything.

James 1:2-4 (NIV) (p.1/6)

5 If any of you lacks **wisdom**,
you should **ask God**, who gives **generously**
to all without finding fault,
and it will be **given** to you.

6 But when you ask,
you must **believe** and not doubt,

James 1:5-6 (NIV) (p.2/6)

because the one who **doubts**
is like a **wave** of the sea,
blown and **tossed** by the wind.

- 7 That person should not expect
to receive anything from the Lord.
- 8 Such a person is **double-minded**
and **unstable** in all they do.

James 1:6-8 (NIV) (p.3/6)

9 Believers in **humble** circumstances
ought to take **pride** in their **high** position.

10 But the **rich** should take pride
in their **humiliation** –
since they will pass away like a **wild flower**.

James 1:9-10 (NIV) (p.4/6)

11 For the sun rises with **scorching heat**
and **wITHERS** the plant;
its **bLOSSOM** falls
and its **beAUTY** is destroyed.

In the same way, the rich will **fade away**
even while they go about their **business**.

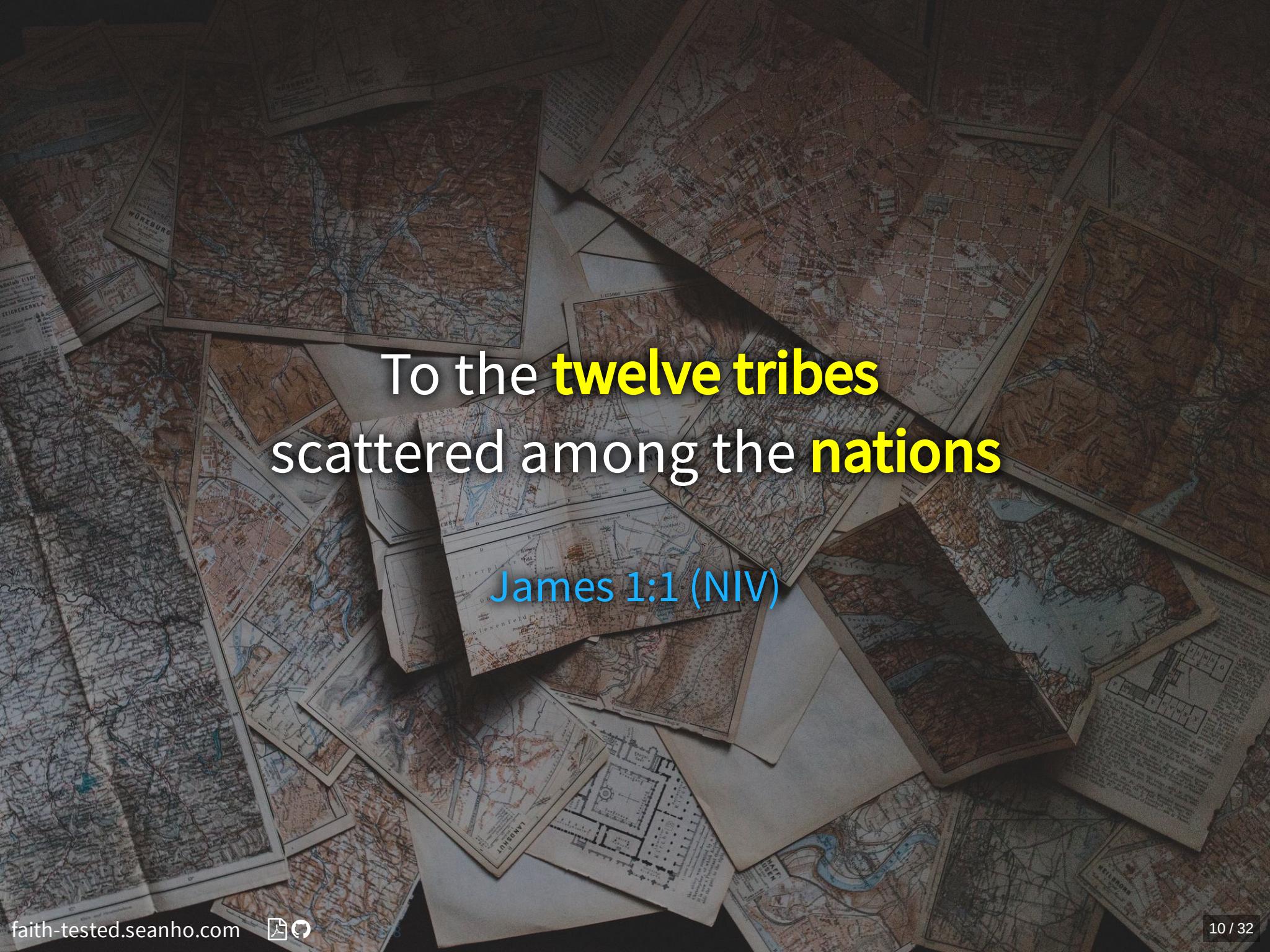
James 1:11 (NIV) (p.5/6)

12 Blessed is the one
who **perseveres** under trial
because, having **stood the test**,
that person will receive the **crown of life**
that the Lord has promised
to those who **love him**.

James 1:12 (NIV) (p.6/6)

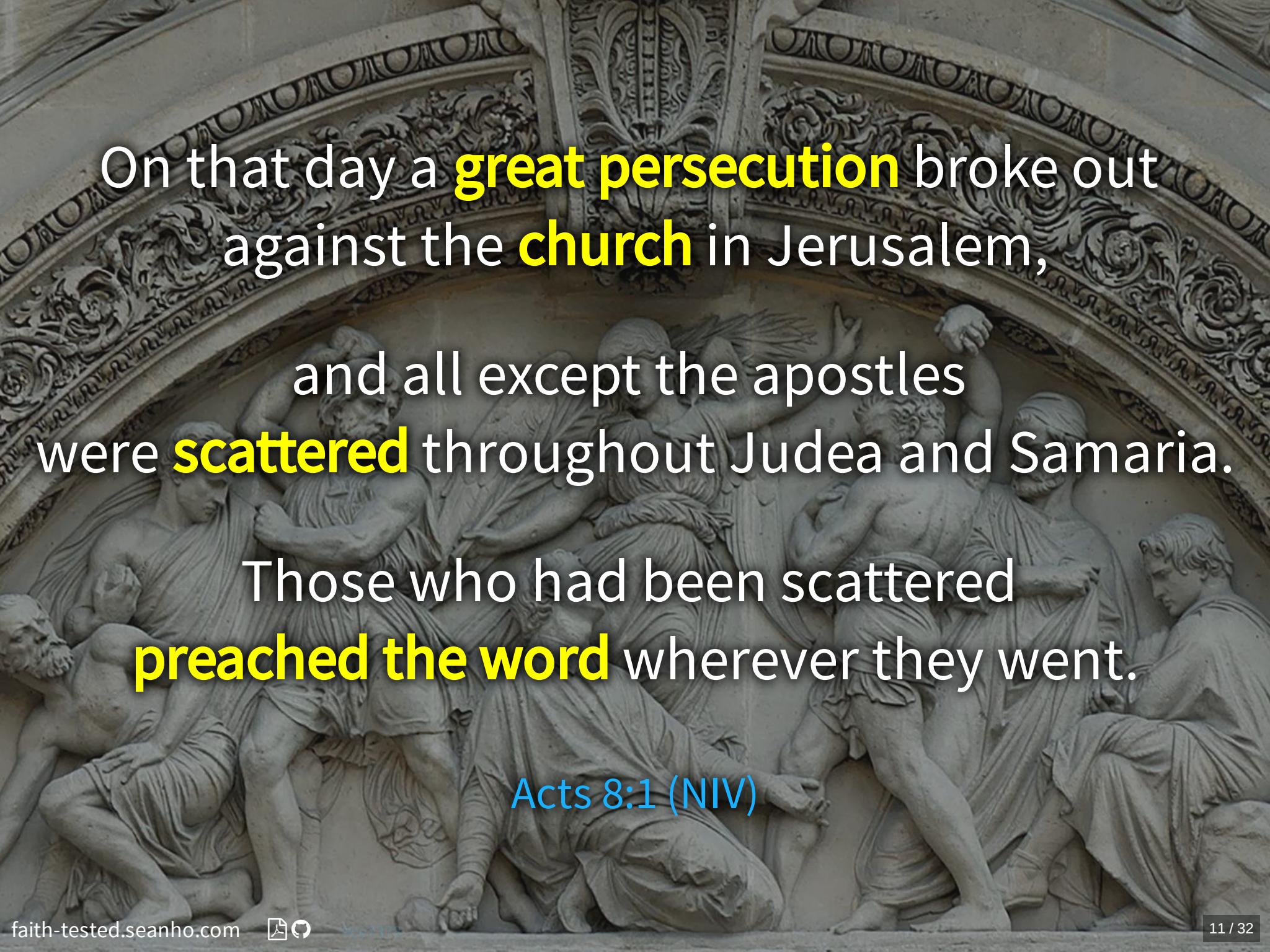
Faith that Stands the Test

1. **Joy** in Trials (v2-4)
2. **Wisdom** Given Generously (v5-8)
3. **Boasting** in Weakness (v9-12)



To the **twelve tribes**
scattered among the **nations**

James 1:1 (NIV)



On that day a **great persecution** broke out against the **church** in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were **scattered** throughout Judea and Samaria.

Those who had been scattered **preached the word** wherever they went.

Acts 8:1 (NIV)

A dramatic painting of a ship in a stormy sea. The sky is filled with dark, turbulent clouds, and the sea is a churning mass of dark green and white foam. A three-masted sailing ship is visible on the left, its sails partially unfurled as it battles the waves. The overall mood is one of struggle and drama.

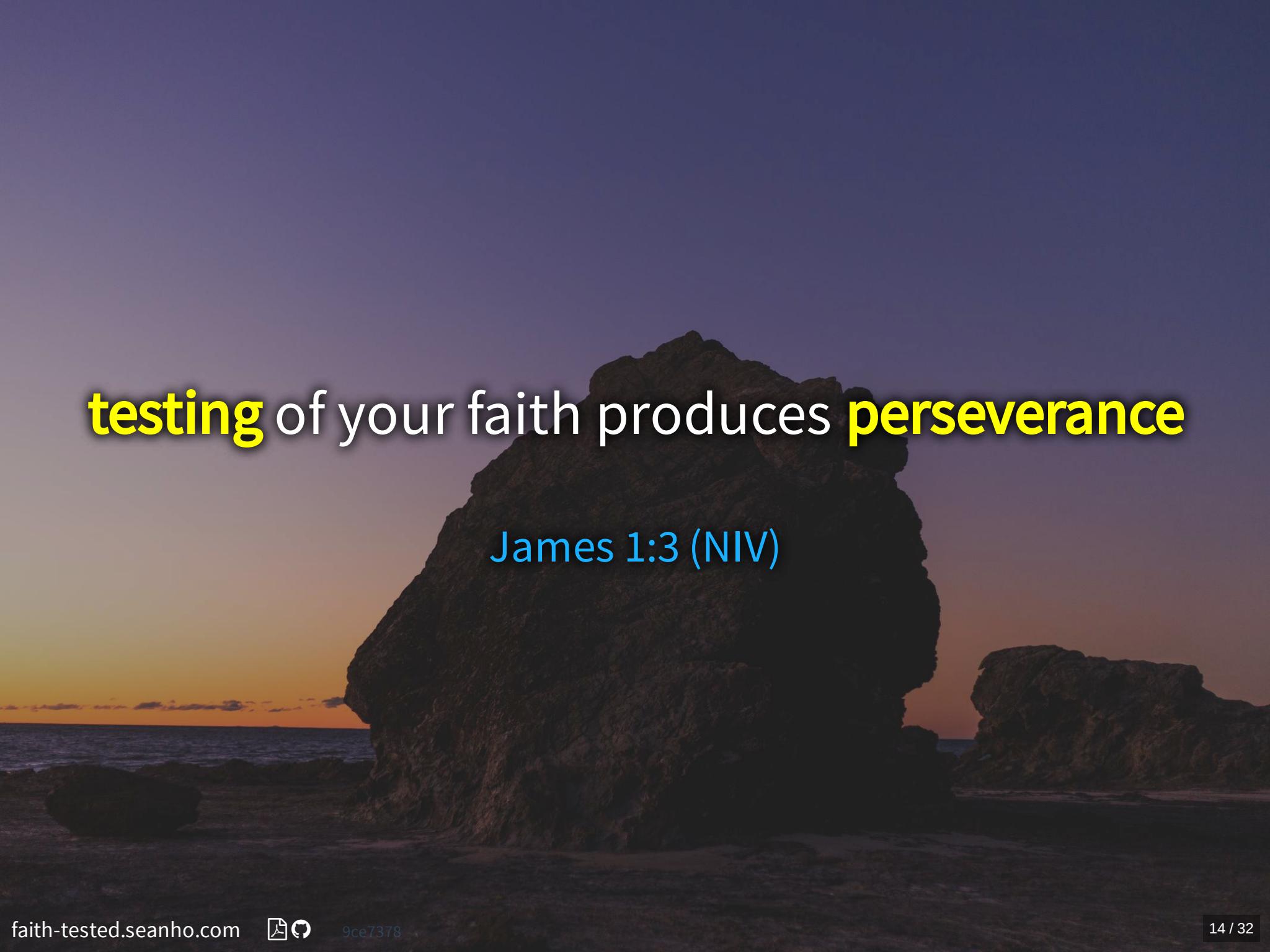
whenever you **face trials of many kinds**

James 1:2 (NIV)



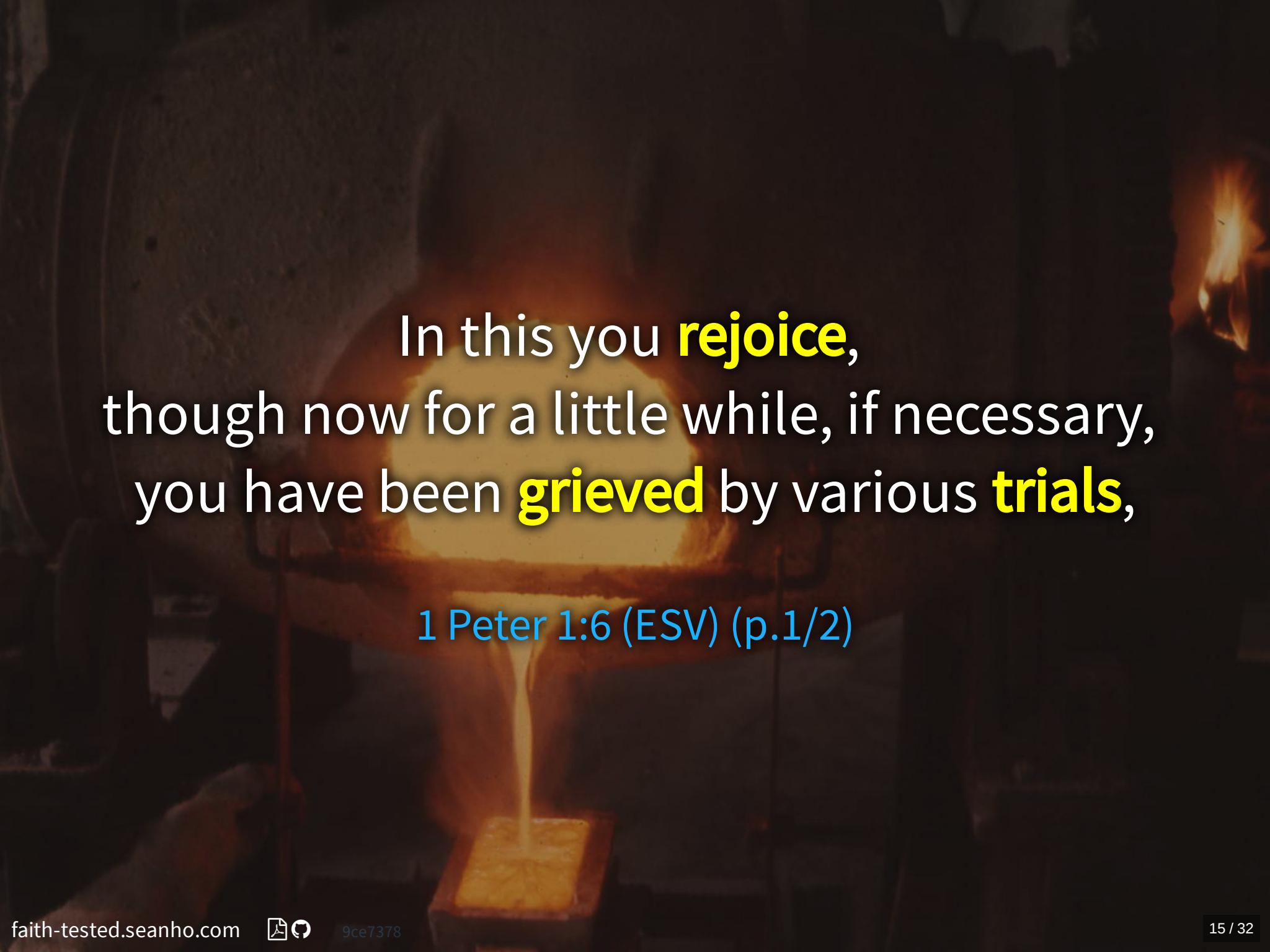
Consider it pure joy

James 1:2 (NIV)

A photograph of a rugged coastal landscape at sunset. A large, dark rock formation stands prominently in the center-left, its silhouette sharp against the warm orange and yellow hues of the setting sun. To the right, another smaller rock formation is visible. The foreground is a dark, sandy beach. The sky above the horizon is a gradient of deep blue and purple.

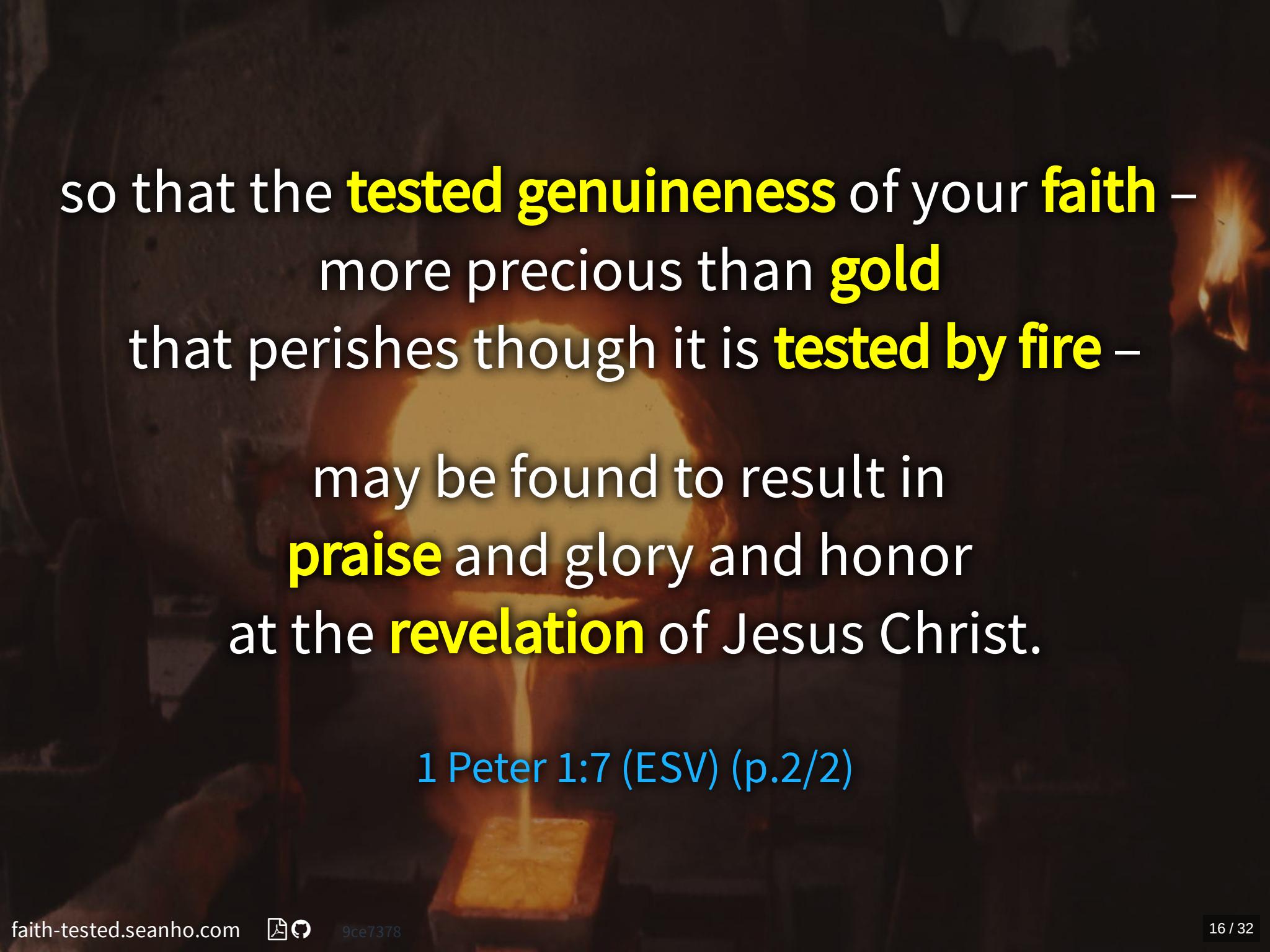
testing of your faith produces **perseverance**

James 1:3 (NIV)



In this you **rejoice**,
though now for a little while, if necessary,
you have been **grieved** by various **trials**,

1 Peter 1:6 (ESV) (p.1/2)



so that the **tested genuineness** of your **faith** –
more precious than **gold**
that perishes though it is **tested by fire** –

may be found to result in
praise and glory and honor
at the **revelation** of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:7 (ESV) (p.2/2)

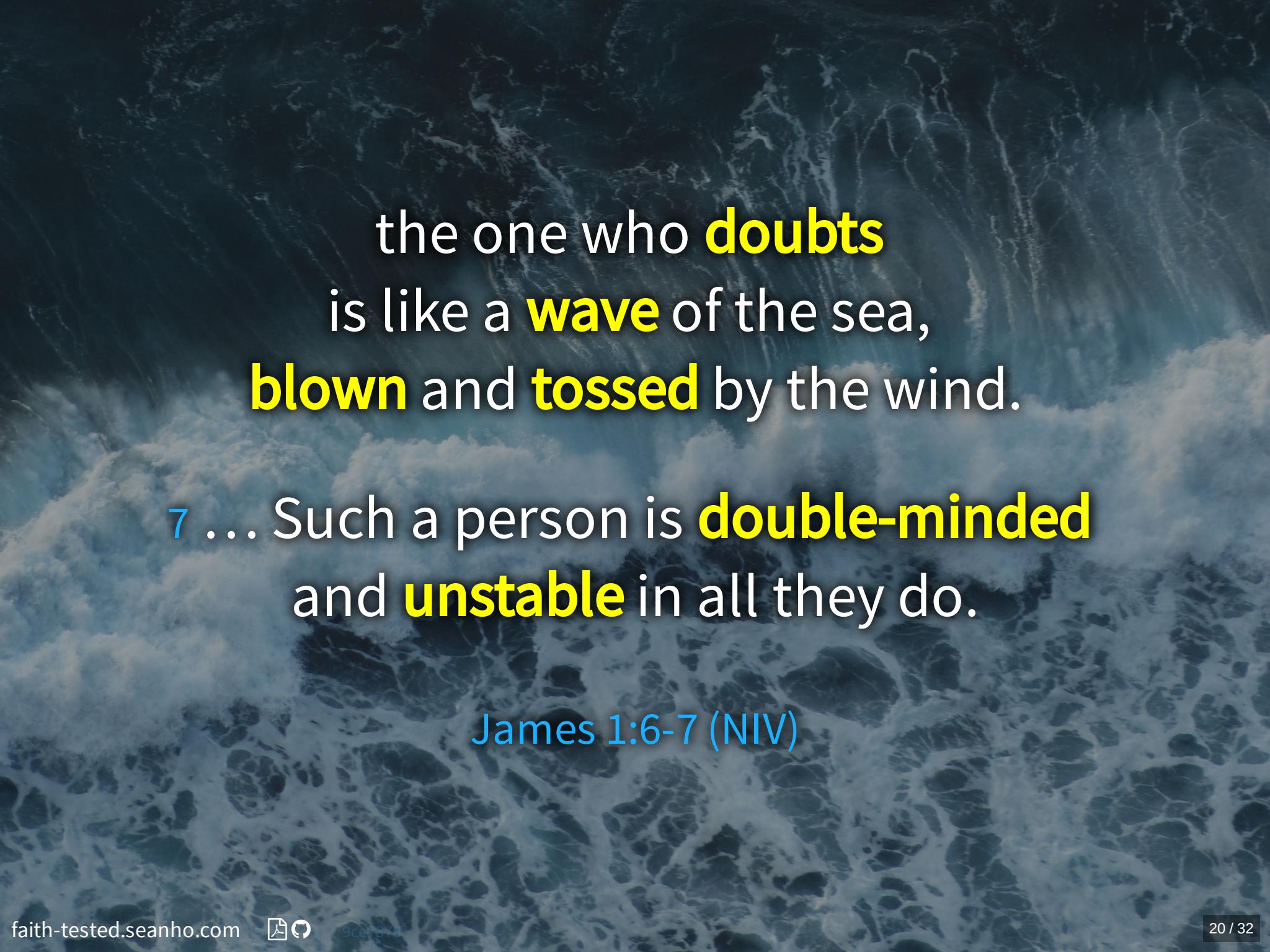
Has my **faith**
in Christ
ever been **tested?**

Faith that Stands the Test

1. Joy in Trials (v2-4)
2. **Wisdom Given Generously** (v5-8)
3. Boasting in Weakness (v9-12)

If any of you lacks **wisdom**,
you should **ask God**, who gives **generously**
to all without **finding fault**

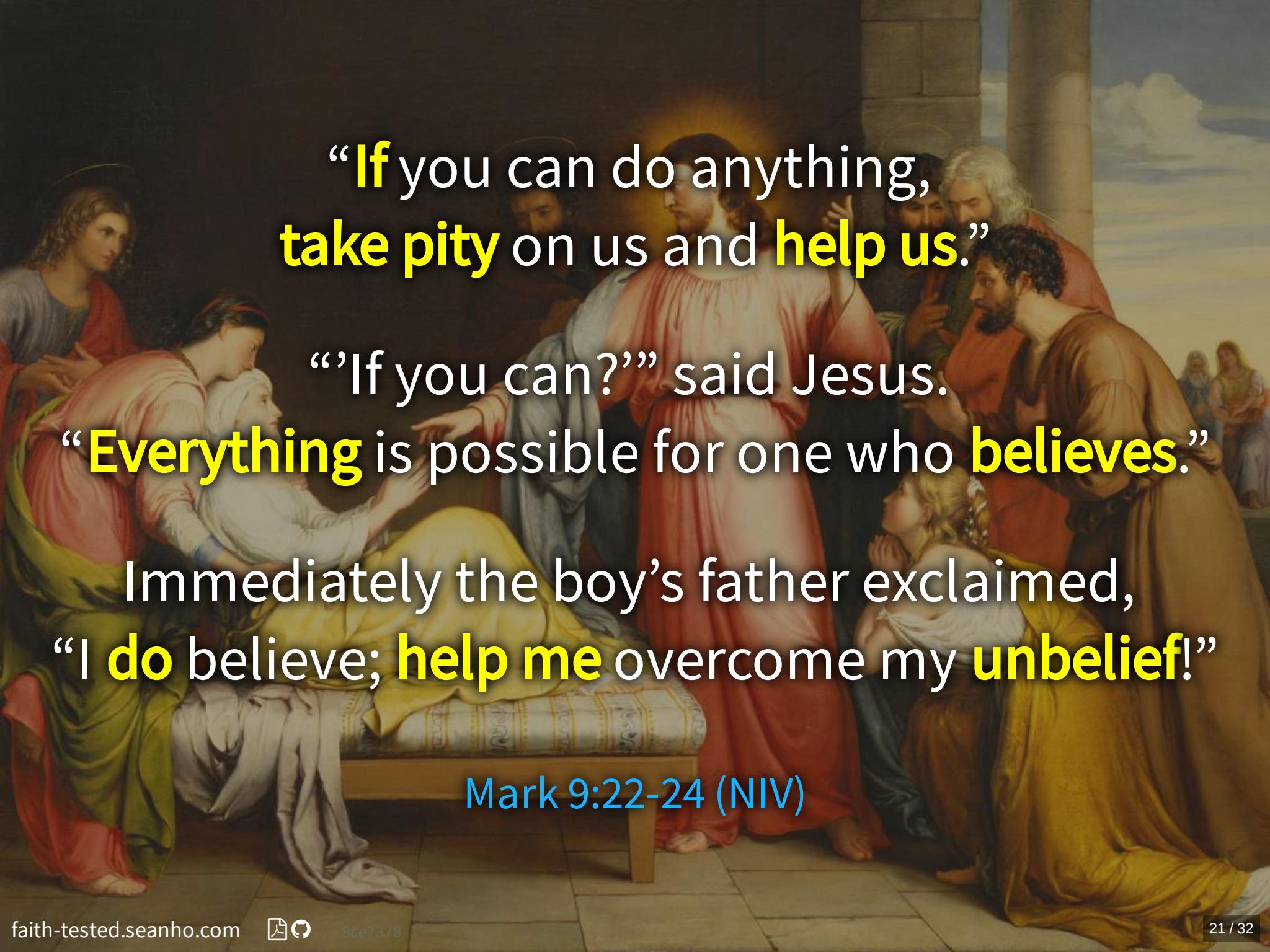
James 1:5 (NIV)



the one who **doubts**
is like a **wave** of the sea,
blown and **tossed** by the wind.

7 ... Such a person is **double-minded**
and **unstable** in all they do.

James 1:6-7 (NIV)



**“If you can do anything,
take pity on us and help us.”**

“‘If you can?’” said Jesus.
“Everything is possible for one who **believes.**”

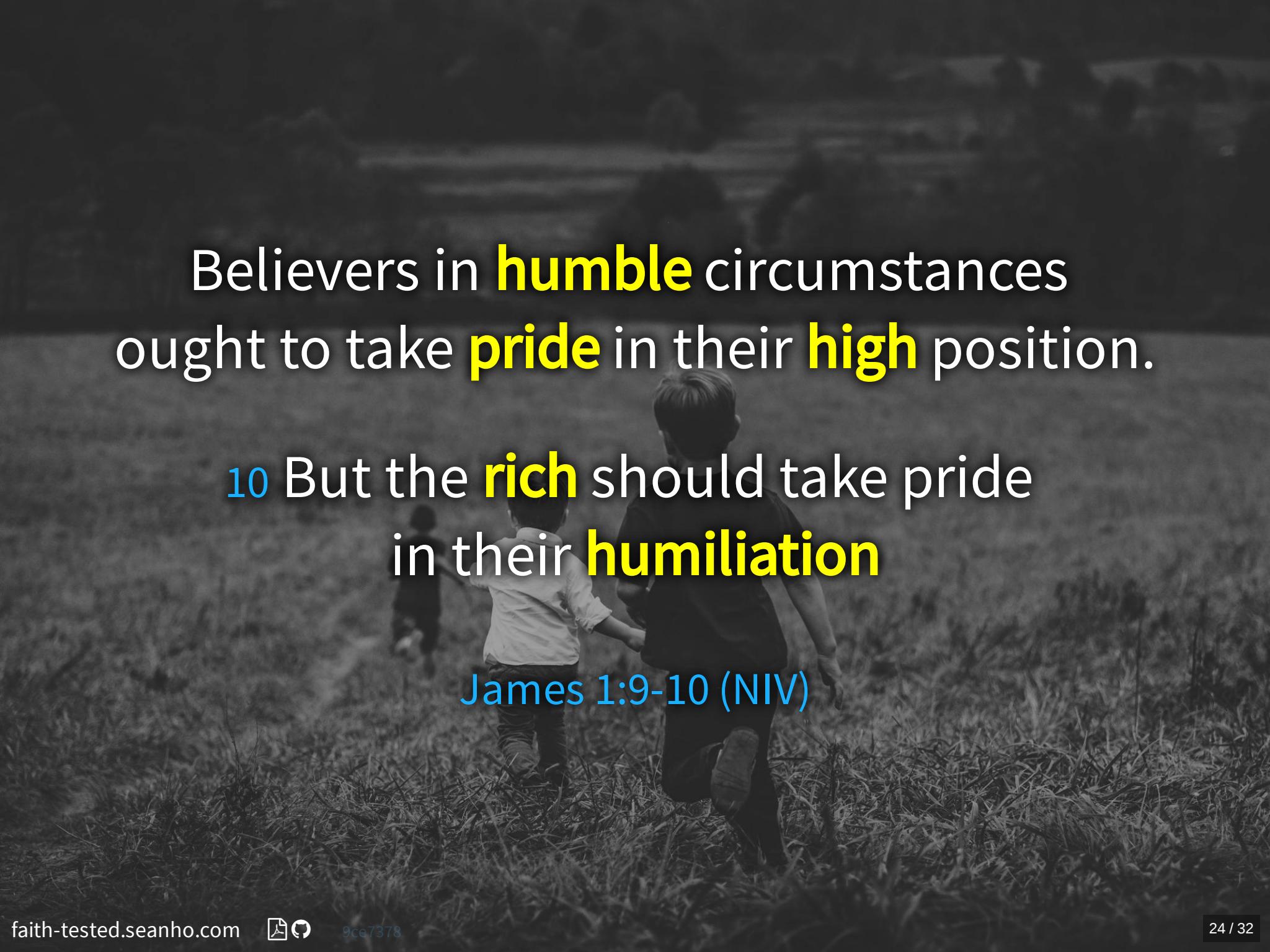
Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed,
“I **do** believe; **help me** overcome my **unbelief!**”

Mark 9:22-24 (NIV)

**Do I believe God
is generous?**

Faith that Stands the Test

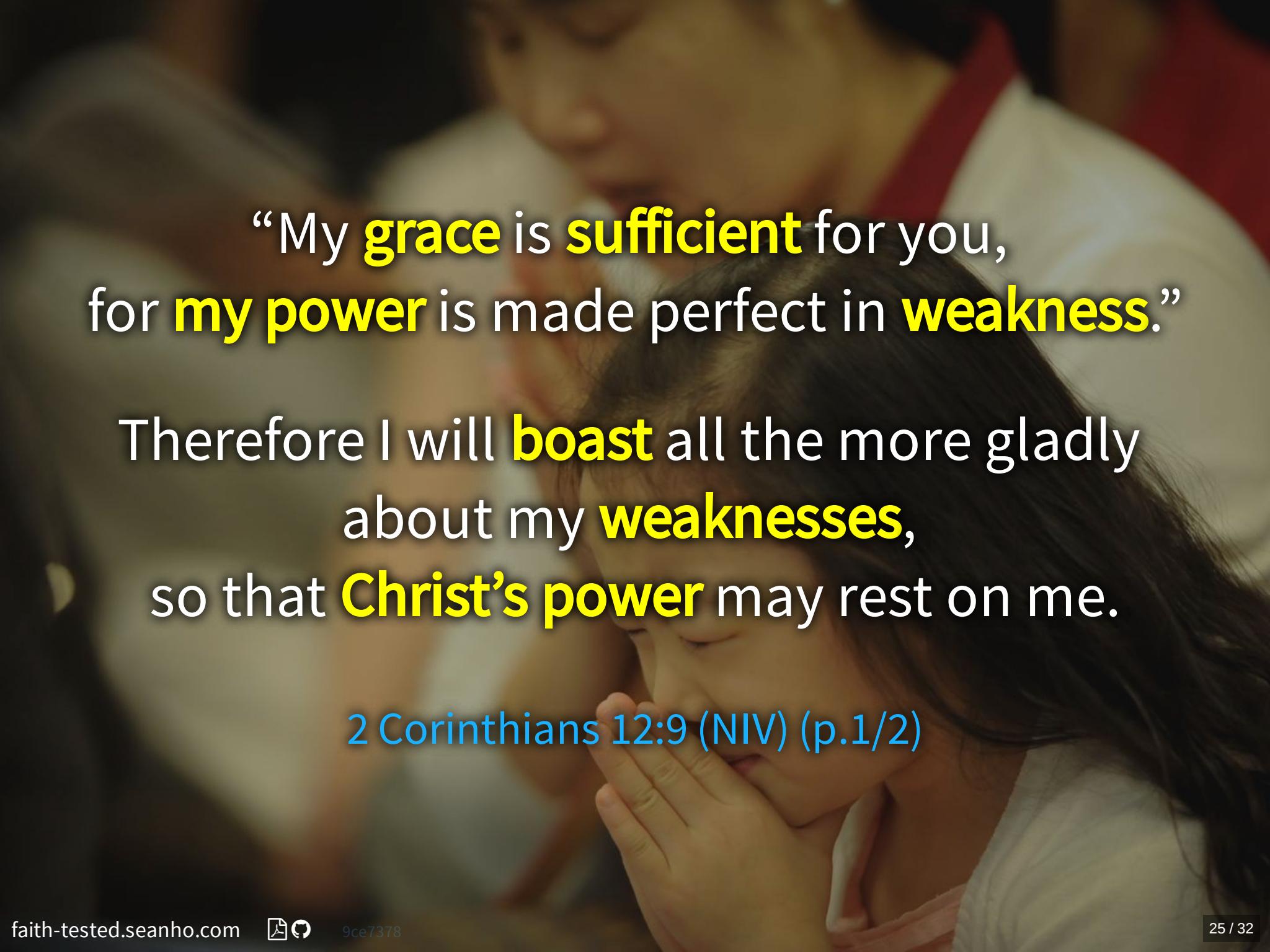
1. Joy in Trials (v2-4)
2. Wisdom Given Generously (v5-8)
3. **Boasting in Weakness** (v9-12)



Believers in **humble** circumstances
ought to take **pride** in their **high** position.

10 But the **rich** should take pride
in their **humiliation**

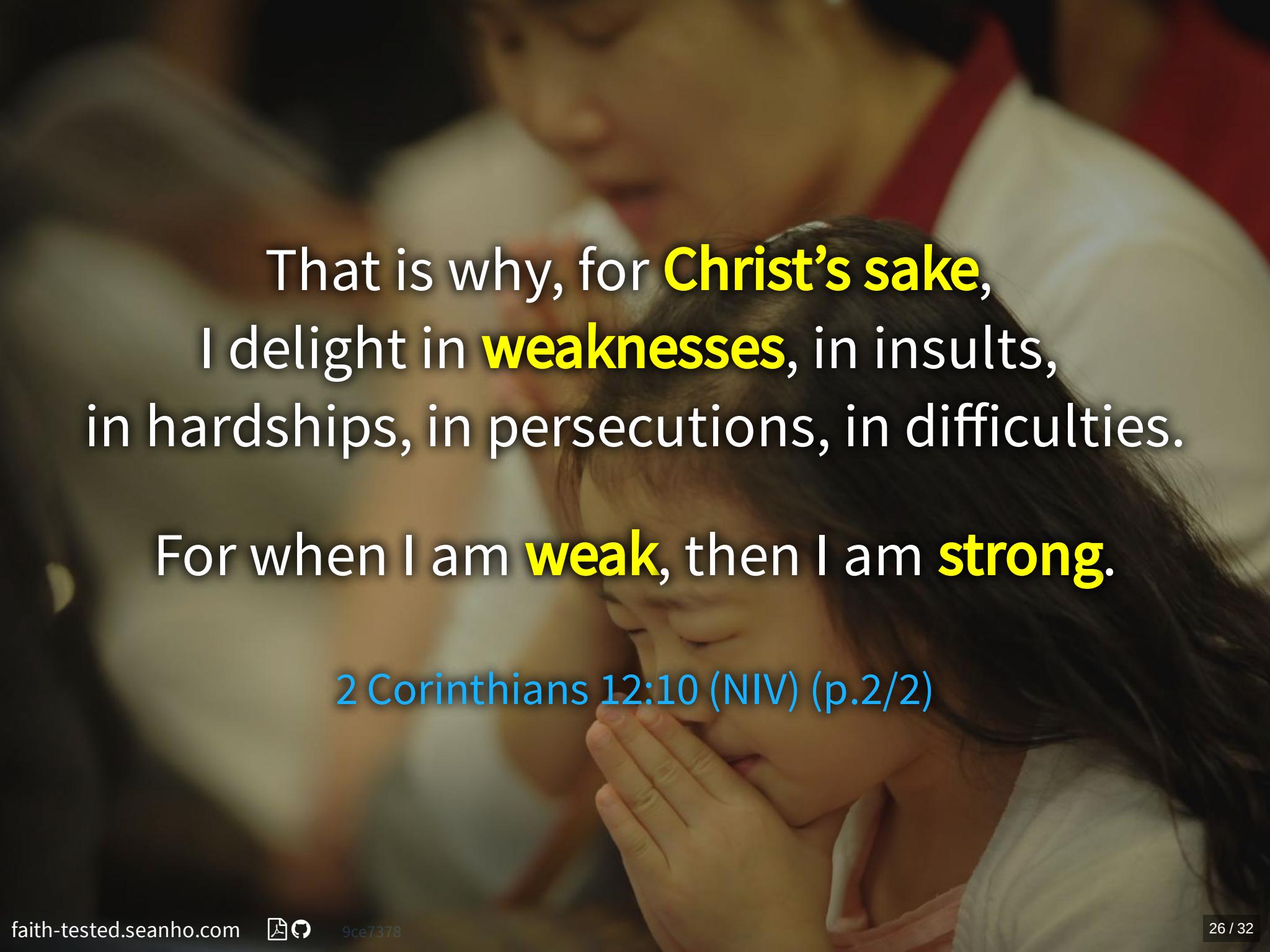
James 1:9-10 (NIV)



“My **grace** is **sufficient** for you,
for **my power** is made perfect in **weakness**.”

Therefore I will **boast** all the more gladly
about my **weaknesses**,
so that **Christ's power** may rest on me.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV) (p.1/2)

A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair, her head bowed in prayer. Her hands are clasped near her chin. She is wearing a light-colored shirt. The background is blurred.

That is why, for **Christ's sake**,
I delight in **weaknesses**, in insults,
in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties.

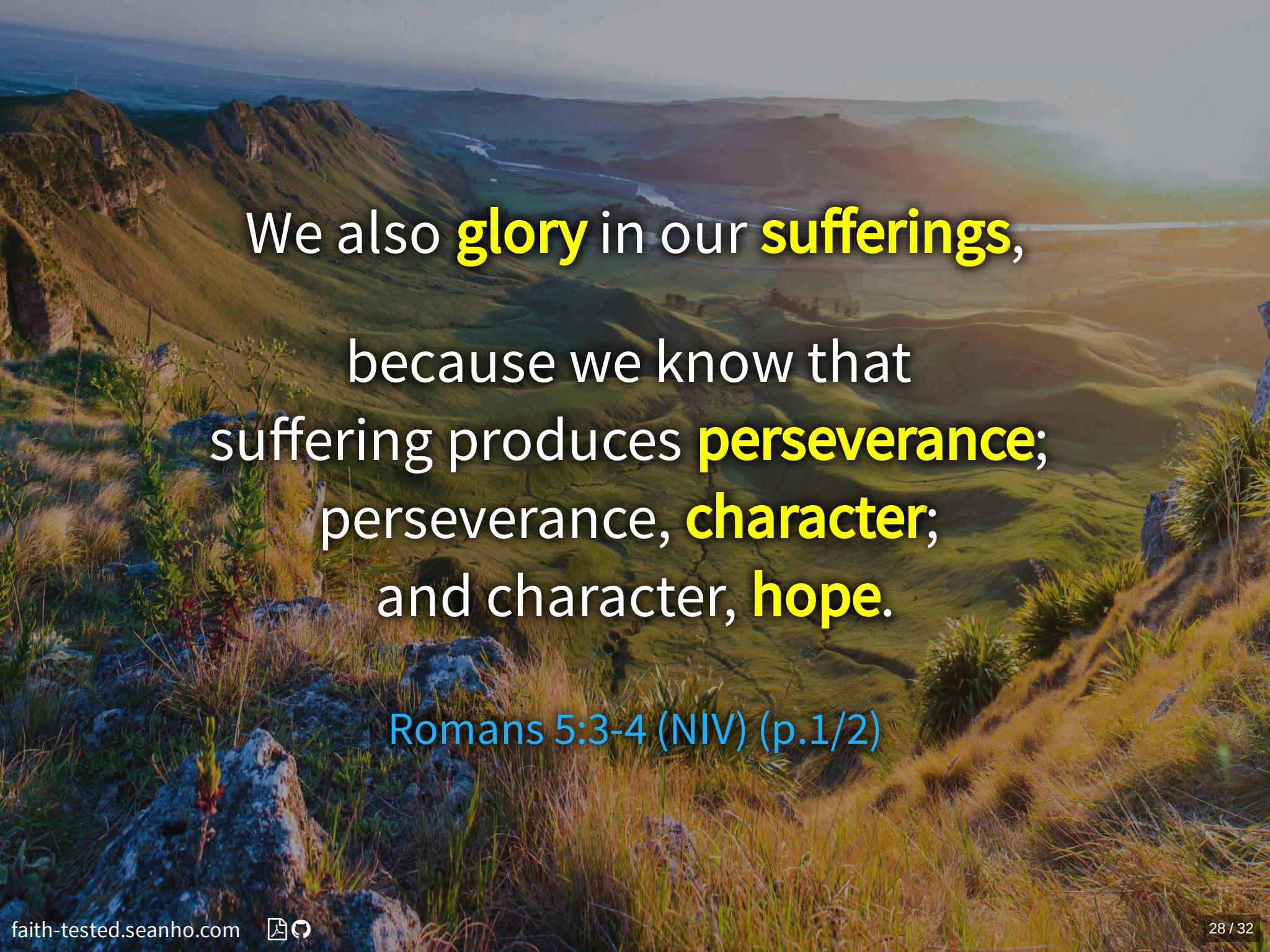
For when I am **weak**, then I am **strong**.

2 Corinthians 12:10 (NIV) (p.2/2)

A close-up photograph of a woman's hair and shoulders. She has long, light brown hair and is wearing a red patterned top. She is holding a large, colorful bouquet of flowers, including pink roses and white hydrangeas, against a dark background.

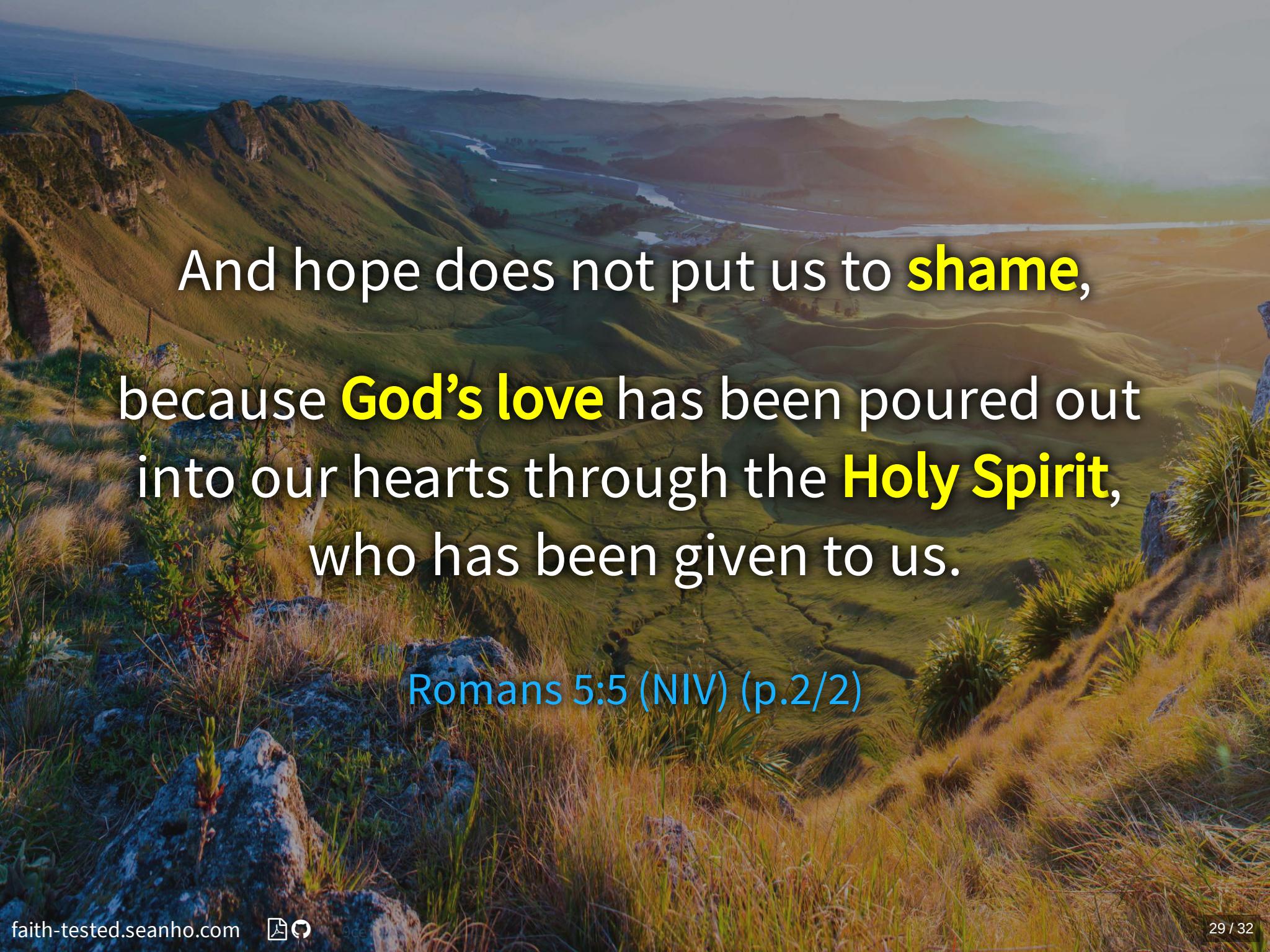
Blessed is the one who
perseveres under **trial**
because, having **stood** the test,
that person will receive the **crown of life**

James 1:12 (NIV)



We also **glory** in our **sufferings**,
because we know that
suffering produces **perseverance**;
perseverance, **character**;
and character, **hope**.

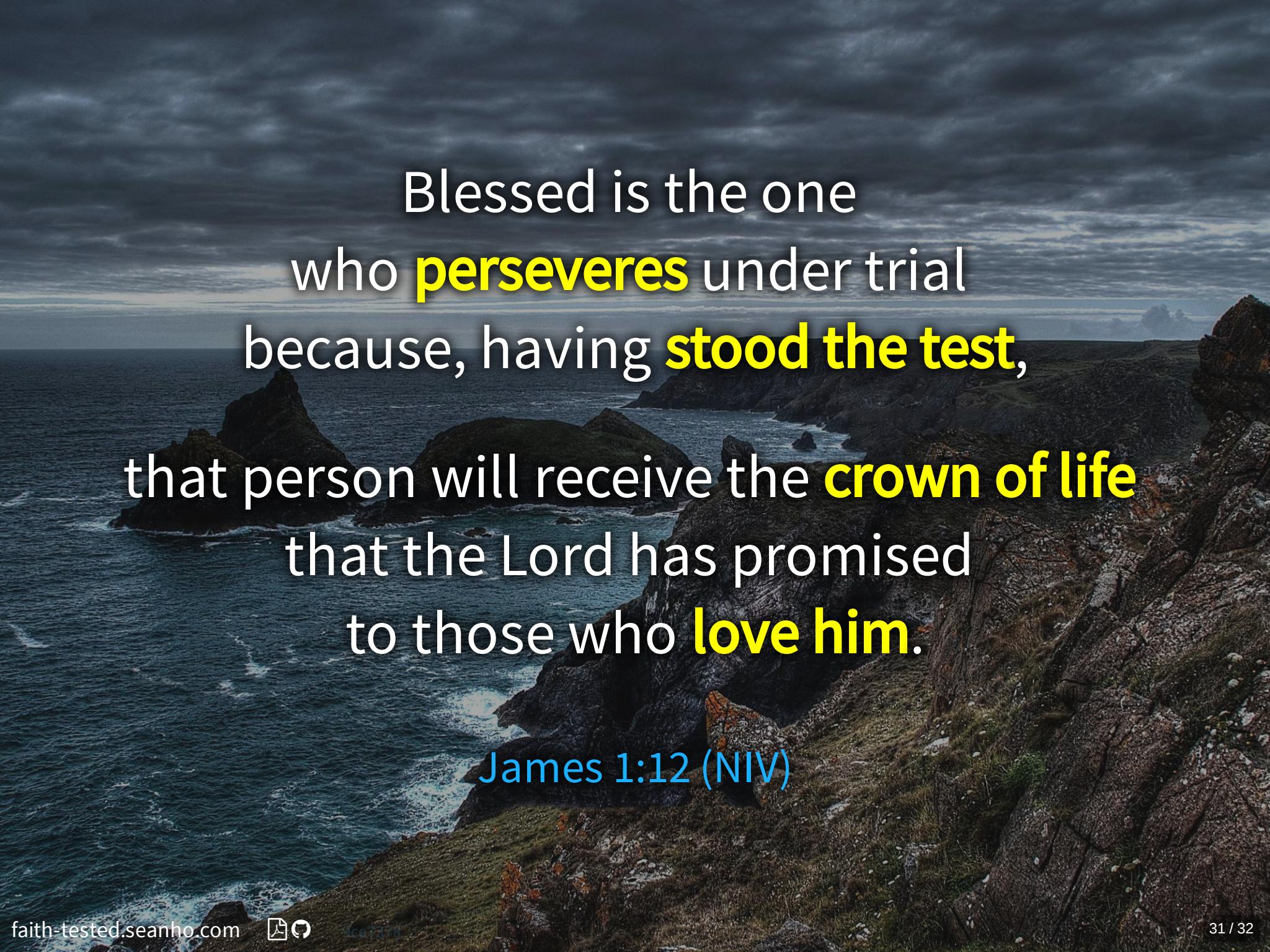
Romans 5:3-4 (NIV) (p.1/2)



And hope does not put us to **shame**,
because **God's love** has been poured out
into our hearts through the **Holy Spirit**,
who has been given to us.

Romans 5:5 (NIV) (p.2/2)

**Do I boast in my
own weaknesses?**



Blessed is the one
who **perseveres** under trial
because, having **stood the test**,
that person will receive the **crown of life**
that the Lord has promised
to those who **love him.**

James 1:12 (NIV)

