

4. The Jews are scattered abroad but this is to their advantage. Those who remain in Palestine are negative and still drawn to legalism without reality by observing obsolete rituals.

James 1:2 Consider [**Imperative Mood #1**] it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, (NASB)

1. James ends verse 1 with the salutation of the verb **χαίρω** (*chaíρω*). It is translated “Greetings” but it refers to the principle of unalloyed happiness.
2. As we have noted, this mental attitude is how James opens his first paragraph, “Consider it all joy.”
3. Here the word ‘joy’ is the noun **χαρά** (*chará*) which is the direct object of the opening verb “consider,” the aorist middle imperative of **ἡγέομαι** (*hēgéomai*). In this context, it is used “to engage in an intellectual process; to think, consider, or regard.”¹ This requires the believer to call to mind pertinent doctrines from which to draw a conclusion and an application.
4. *Hēgéomai* is a constative aorist tense that in this context refers to a succession of facts or events. The middle voice indicates that the action is done by the subject. The imperative mood is a command to the reader to execute the verb by application.
5. So what is the application? Under the filling of the Spirit, consider those doctrines related to the exigency in light of the plan of God and conclude that you are in that plan. This results in maintaining or returning to the copacetic spiritual life.
6. As the verse continues, the categories of doctrine to be recalled have to do with the various pressures that every believer encounters during his life.
7. These vary. Some that occur have to do with poor decisions by yourself, poor decisions by others. Problems that occur due to illness, poor economy, loss of employment, other peoples’ bad decisions, and the list goes on and on.
8. Look at it this way: There are eleven categories of systematic theology within which all the issues of life are recognized. Let’s count them off:

¹ Walter Bauer, “ἡγέομαι,” in *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature*, 3d ed., rev. and ed. Frederick William Danker (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2000), 434.

1. **Bibliology.** This has to do with the Bible in two testaments. Do you believe it contains absolute truth? Do you have it as your go-to resource for growth, guidance, and application? Are you “mistaken not understanding the Scripture or the power of God” (Matthew 22:29)?

The process by which this category is developed we refer to as The System of Divine Didactics which includes revelation, inspiration, interpretation, communication, illumination, and animation.

For accompanying visual click on this link:

<http://admin.joegriffin.org/Visuals/SystemOfDivineDidactics.pdf>

2. **Theology Proper.** This is a study of the essence of God, His divine decree, Trinitarianism: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
3. **Angelology including Satanology.** Biblical doctrines that present the existence of angels both elect and fallen, their creation, their present modus operandi, the Angelic Conflict, and their future destinies; Satanology and *cosmos diabolicus*.
4. **Anthropology.** The study of man, his origin, his fall, his redemption, his purpose, and the future for the saved and unsaved.
5. **Hamartiology.** The study of sin, its origin, the body, the soul, the sin nature, personal sin, imputed sin, its categories, its management, its ultimate defeat.
6. **Soteriology.** The Savior, the Hypostatic Union, His sufferings, His sacrifice, the Infralapsarian order of the elective decree, the saving work of the Trinity, eternal security, salvation, eternal life.
7. **Ecclesiology.** The church as an organism or the Body of Christ, the church as an organization for spiritual growth, its dispensation, its grace policies as opposed to law, ritual, and legalism.

8. **Eschatology.** The dispensational structure of prophecy. Encompasses events from Adam to the Eternal State. Israel and its law as opposed to the church and its doctrines of grace. Covenants to Israel and their fulfillment. The Church Age as a Mystery dispensation absent prophecy with the exceptions of the First Advent of the Holy Spirit and the Rapture. The Tribulation, the Second Advent, the Millennium, the last rebellion. The Great White Throne, the lake of fire, and the new heavens and the new earth.
 9. **Christology.** The preincarnate Christ. Prophesied Messiah, the virgin birth, the hypostatic union, childhood, public ministry, temptation, transfiguration, His teachings: sermons, parables, miracles, and Passion. His work and victory on the cross, resurrection, ascension, and session. His Second Advent, Millennial kingdom, His rulership in the eternal state.
 10. **Pneumatology.** The Person of the Holy Spirit. His works related to creation, inspiration, restraining ministry, regeneration, illumination, and seven salvation ministries: efficacious grace, sealing, regeneration, baptism, indwelling, filling, and assignment of a spiritual gift.
9. Within the inventory of these categories of biblical revelation are guidelines that address every exigency man faces. The origin of these challenges arises from errant thought that must be brought into line with biblical guidance and related commandments.
 10. Challenges to a believer's thought process emanate from the sin nature, from personal or external circumstances, systems, people, difficulties, disasters, and prosperity.
 11. To advance to, acquire, and maintain the copasetic spiritual life, the believer must submit to a process that enables him to accumulate divine viewpoint which results in divine guidance under the filling ministry of the Holy Spirit.