

# The Values of Trials

*(Part 1)*

***“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (James 1:2-4)***

No one is happy or would be happy if he would pass through trials. Even I, the things that always avoid and I don't want to get involve in are trials, because trials it mean pain and suffering. But what is Apostle James said here, ***‘Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds.’*** Why to consider it pure joy in passing through trials? Because through trials God is achieving to us good things as we can read below.

***1- We may come to know God through trials:*** Man use to live and grow up depending on himself and on other people who are around him and in his atmosphere. Even when he faces problems he is depending on himself and the people around him to solve these problems. But a time will come and God will allow that a hard trial and certain problem will pass through the person life and that he would try his best and will use all what is in his hand to solve it but all that will not be effective to solve it. Then this is the time man will realize his inadequacy and inability to manage his life depending on himself or on others. Then this is the time he will turn toward God and toward the cross of Jesus and he will give his life and surrender it to God. Man will do that when trials knock him down. The birth process is painful when pregnant women go into labour. Also to be born from God (i.e. born again) is painful moment when man passes through hard trials and painful experience when he comes to realize that he needs God to help him to pass through, and then this is the moment that he is born again.

***2- We draw near to God through trials trusting God alone:*** Even to us who are born again trials would help us to draw near to God and become closer unto him. Trials teach us to trust more in God and in His mighty power. The Word of God tells us the following: ***“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)*** Even to us who trust God we may still rely on certain resources or talents that God had given to us. Or we might be still relying on certain friends or figures who are near to us and who show interest in our affairs. We may get deviated and put our trust on such things, therefore through trials God would show us that even these good resources that we have and are from God, and even those good people who want to help they cannot, therefore we really need to rely fully unto God. Trials teach us to fully trust God and not to rely on our own minds setup, the way we think and our own understanding.

***3- Trials teaches up to pray and fast:*** We as Christians we use to pray but trials teaches us to pray more, to pray persistently, to pray earnestly, to kneel down and to shed tears at Jesus' feet and cry unto God. Trials teaches us to humble down and when we face trials we fast; humbling ourselves before God through prayer and fasting asking Him to interfere and solve the problem and stop the threats that is advancing toward us.

***4- Trials help us to repent:*** When we face trials some of them are due to the consequences of our sins, ***“Your sins have deprived you of good.” (Jeremiah 5:25b)*** Or some trials are due to God discipline to correct us and bring us into the right way, ***“Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all.” (Hebrews 12:7-8)*** Therefore God will allow trials and will use them as discipline for us and a rebuke to bring us to repentance and back to God. The Lord will also allow that we will carry the consequences of our sins and that is painful but that would give us clear decision and clear mind not to repeat that again.

***5- Trials it show us the glory of God and the power of God Almighty:*** ***“Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” (John 11:40)*** In trials God will deal with our problems in certain way that are beyond our imagination and what we think off. For example when the people of God they were advancing toward the red sea fleeing from the army of Pharaoh they were in between two problems, how to cross the red sea and how to escape the army of Pharaoh. The people were afraid but, ***“Moses answered the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.” (Exodus 14:13-14)*** It would never in people mind or understanding that God would divide the red sea and the people will cross on a dry land and walls of water on their both sides. How the people pass through the red sea on dry land? The Lord allowed a strong wind to pass over to drive the water and turned it into dry land. ***“The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, “Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.” (Exodus 14:23-25)*** God can turn the trials that you are passing through and change its course for your behalf in a way behind your understanding and beyond your imagination. Not only that but He will turn the battle for you and gives you great victory as you trust Him as we can read hear. ***“Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.” Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen—the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived.” (Exodus 14:26-28)***

***My Dear and Beloved:*** The Lord Jesus said, ***“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)*** Trials and troubles we cannot avoid, we have to pass through; they are part of God's calling for us. But we have the victory in Jesus and what He had done on the cross for us. We need to trust Him fully and trust His Word and walk in His ways as we agree to pray.

***My Prayer:*** ***Father God I thank you for your Son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that gives me assurance and build me in the right way and impart to me clear understanding. Lord strengthen me and help me to trust you more in times of trials, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.***