

The Values of Trials

(Part 2)

“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)

God’s ways are not man’s ways and his thoughts are different than our thoughts as He had said, ***“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)*** One of the points that we can use to enter into the message is this: What is the joy in trials and how trials and problems can be a source of blessings to me?

6- Through trials I learn to trust God and to trust His Word and His promises in the bible: When Jesus was tempted the devil asked Him, ***“If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”*** Jesus at that time was hungry and He can change the stone to bread, but this is not what God had ordained and provide for us in His Word. ***“Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”(Matthew 4:4)*** Jesus would disobey God if He would do that, but He trusted God and trusted His Word that the Lord will provide for Him to live. Trials would teach us that in time of need and trouble we don’t need to steal, cheat or tell lies in order for us to live. But trials would teach us to trust God’s Word that He will provide for us and will help us and sustain us.

7- Through trials our faith in God and on His promises increases and well established: Certain trials require from us certain impossible or extraordinary things to do or achieve in order for us to obey God’s word and His commands. When God called Abraham to offer to Him his one and only son Isaac, Abraham obeyed God because he trusted God’s Word, ***“By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.” (Hebrews 11:17-19)*** When Abraham went on to offer his son, his son Isaac asked him, ***“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering? Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” (Genesis 22:8-9)*** Abraham had full trust in God’s promises and that trial or test confirmed to Abraham that God is faithful and all His promises are true. Trials and tests that God would allow to pass in our lives it confirms to us that God is true to all His promises and it encourage us to follow God and walk in His ways trusting all His promises that He will provide for us to live the life that He wants us to live.

8- Trials test our faith: Certain people they worship God as long as He is giving them material things, but the same people may go away from God when trials or troubles come to their lives. God would correct the faith of those people through trials. Through trials God would teach us that we ought to worship Him not only in the good circumstances but He wants us to continue to worship Him and serve Him even in times of troubles. Job when

was afflicted by devil and loss his children, belongings and even his health, his wife told him, ***“Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!”*** But he answered her this way, ***“You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?” (Job 2:9-10)*** God allowed trials to bring us to the sound faith that it says, ***“For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him.” (Philippians 2:29)*** Trials teaches that as Christ suffered and died on the cross to save us from our sins, we live our lives and suffer for Him in order that His love will reach others and got save, ***“And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.” (2 Corinthians 5:15)***

9- Trials teach us to persevere and to have patient: Trials are the painful and the difficult time that we may pass through. But in trials God would imparting to us certain things that we would not have or receive without trials. Trials teach us to be more patient and persevering to keep our achievements to the responsibilities that God ordained and entrust to us. Easy to achieve if we don’t have trials but more difficult to persevere in keeping same level of achievements and commitment in trials. In trials God is developing in us perseverance. And God would allow certain trials and hardships in our lives till we achieve and maintain that perseverance that God wants to see in our lives.

10- Trials bring us to maturity: Trials would teach us and develop in us new beautiful things. Trials it show that God would use not the strong points that we have but God would use our weak points. Trials would teach us that there is no impossible with God. Trials that God would allow all of us to pass through would teach us to have more experience and to be more trained and equipped to handle and carry different troubles and hardships. Trials are equipping factor for us for the future. As God would help us to pass one hurdle that would be a good asset for us to face further troubles in the future. Through trials God will correct and strengthen our attitudes and character and help us to be well trained to face different hardship and emergencies in the future. God through trials would teach us warfare and how to fight our enemy, the Devil and all its demons and be able to manage and handle all its schemes.

11- God might disclose His good plan for you through trials: Certain times you pass through a displeasing and unwanted situation. You cannot even explain it or understand why you are passing through all that. But later on when trials are finished and you are standing on a firm ground you look at the past and understand that without the trial that you had just passed through you will not be in the place that God wants you to be. Certain trials God allow in your life so that you will take a certain decision that will bring you where God wants you to be.

My Dear and Beloved: “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) There is purpose for each and every trial that God would allow in our lives. We need to persevere and respond to them in the precise way that God wants us to behave so that God purpose in our lives would be achieved as we agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your message and your word that clarified to me and answered lot of my questions. Lord helps me to persevere and to trust you and walk in your ways. Lord let all the trials that I am passing through would equip me to do your will and achieve your purpose for my life. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.