

THE BENEFITS OF TRIALS

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All trials, regardless of their nature, seem very unpleasant and burdensome, and they usually are until we meet them right and get the great benefit from them that we should. That is what the writer to the Hebrews means in Hebrews 12:11, “Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.”

The great blessing that comes with trials when they are met right, will bring us into our full inheritance in Christ here. Along with that, we have our Christian characters conformed into the very image of Christ and brought to a place of perfect peace and rest about everything where nothing will disturb us anymore; free from all disturbance and unhappiness.

1 Peter 1:6-7, “Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:”

Some may think that when people in Bible times were healed, their old oppressions never came back. The Bible doesn't specifically say what happened to the majority of people after they were healed although there are a few cases where it tells us what happened afterward.

In 2nd Chronicles 14th, 15th, and 16th chapters, we are told of Asa's reign as king of Judah. He met a very severe trial in God's way and had peace for thirty years. Then another trial came and instead of meeting it like he did the first time by trusting God he turned to man for help.

2 Chronicles 16:7-9, “And Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand. Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand. For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.”

Then Asa was oppressed with a serious disease until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not the LORD but the physicians. God was dealing with Asa to get his heart right with Him, but as he turned to man, it showed that his heart was not right, and he died in rebellion and unbelief.

One reason why those in the Truth are attacked in their bodies is because their faith in God has not been perfected as it should be, and they have not become fully scriptural in their attitude to God along that particular line. So that trial or physical attack has been permitted to come to bring them on to Scriptural grounds and to a place of full trust on God. Then they will have perfect health and protection all the time.

It is the same with financial trials, when met right will bring us great financial prosperity, where we will have all we desire for ourselves and all that we would like to give away, regardless of natural conditions. Businesses may close, and natural sources of supply may fail us, but God will have a better source that will mean more to us than anything that we may have lost. Best of all, it will bring us to a place of perfect faith and trust in God, which is one reason for trials; another reason is to prepare us for eternal life.

We are to also have perfect peace and victory in our homes; God wants our children to act exactly as we desire. He wants our spouse to act in

a way to suit us, and they will the moment we take that scriptural attitude toward them.

When any of the children are acting in a way that does not suit us, we should not consider that they are the ones at fault. When parents are fully subject to the will of God, He will make their children obedient to them and to God.

All human efforts are a hindrance when handling children. When we use human plans and methods, God's power cannot work. Of course, parents have a perfect right to tell their children what to do and what not to do, but not expecting them to obey because they are the parents. Trusting God by the help of the Holy Spirit is the only effectual and Scriptural plan and our only hope of peace in our homes and victory with our children.

To complain about or censure a child in front of anyone, would be unscriptural and also embarrassing to the child and would only fill them with a spirit of disobedience and resentment. Every child in our home should be treated as kindly and courteously as our most honored guest.

Parents should do their best to get the confidence of their children and let them realize that their interests are the parent's interests, and that they are looking out for their own good and will not rob them of one scriptural and legitimate pleasure.

Depending on God is the only way to keep Satan out of the children, threatening, complaining, and censuring only lets the devil in. We are to treat the children with divine love and kindness as Jesus would and did treat them.

When parents have not treated a child right, and they become unruly and in some sort of mischief unless the parents change Satan will gain control and the responsibility for their destruction will be totally on the parents. We are instructed in the Scriptures how we should deal with our children, which is to bring them up tenderly, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:4, “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” And also, in

Colossians 3:21, *“Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.”*

A real Christian is one who places themselves into God’s hands, under His teaching and in His workshop, for Him to work on them. It is like Isaiah said in Isaiah 64:8, *“But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.”*

It takes just three things to make a real Christian. First; to confess and forsake our sins and be born again. Second; to surrender our lives to God and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Third; to be led into all Truth, which means to obey the teachings of the New Testament, have our Christian characters perfected and enter into our full inheritance in Christ, of righteousness, peace, health, protection, finances, victory in the home and everything else. That is the real Christian life, and the Holy Spirit is right at our side to lead us into all of it.

John 16:13-14, *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth, for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”*

That means that He will show us what Jesus Christ provided for us on the Cross and enable us to get the full benefits of those blessings. Some professing Christians do not think it necessary to obey the New Testament in order to get to Heaven, that divine healing and God’s financial plan have nothing to do with eternal life.

When one is led by God’s Holy Spirit, they will find out that our only hope of eternal life depends upon our becoming Scriptural in every part of our life, fully obedient to every part of the New Testament. Trials come for the purpose of exposing any unscriptural attitude or course we are taking, and as they are met right, that condition will be remedied.

The eternal aspect of trials is brought out in James 1:12, *“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”*

Before God gets hold of a person’s life, they are just opposite to what they should be, filled with self-effort and self-merit. God must teach us, that we don’t need any merit of our own in order to receive His help and blessing. The only way that He can do that is to allow some circumstance to arise that will expose how mean we are naturally, and how rebellious we are in our attitude to Him. Then if we hold steady and do not become discouraged, He will show us how to get the victory and in addition, shower upon us richer blessings than we ever had before without any merit on our part.

We cannot do anything to commend us to God or to get His favor. We have no merit of our own, and if we did think we had any, it would be a detriment. God is delighted to shower upon us every spiritual, physical, financial, and all other blessings far beyond what we could think or ask and fill us with His own righteousness and peace without any merit on our part. The great work of His Son on the Cross is all that God requires for merit, and that is already provided for us.

When we have learned that we do not need any merit, and that God will use our worst failures as steppingstones to greater victories and blessings, it will prove to us that Jesus Christ has already provided all the merit that is needed.

We must also come to the place where we realize that we cannot serve and trust God in our own strength, and that His power has been provided for that purpose and through that power we can live an overcoming life without the least trouble.

In our natural condition we are obsessed with the idea that we must do everything that we can to please God in our own strength. But when we do, we will find out that the more we try, the more we will fail. When we let God do the work, He will show us the cause of our trouble, which is depending on ourselves. Then He will give His plan for victory, and that is to draw all the strength and power that we need directly from Him.

It is as the Lord told Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9, *“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my*

strength is made perfect in weakness.” The trials that confront us, are for the purpose of revealing how helpless and hopeless we are to accomplish anything in our own strength in the divine life. As we find that out, the strength of God will flow in, and we will find ourselves “strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.”

Instead of being discouraged and disturbed while going through that process; we should do as James says in James 1:2-4, *“Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; (or many and various temptations) Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.”*

We must also learn to get rid of our own plans and ways. When we first come to God, we are filled with our own plans, which are directly opposite to God’s plans. We have plans for our family affairs, our bodies, finances, and many others, all these plans are human wisdom instead of divine. God will allow trials to come to prove to us how futile and good for nothing human plans and wisdom really are.

Every trial that comes into our life has been sent to reveal that we are depending on our own merits, power, and plans. As we meet that trial right, that condition will be remedied and adjusted according to God’s will. The result is that we will find out that Jesus Christ is the only merit that God requires, and that God’s power is the only power and that His plans are the only plans. Then we become more than conquerors through Him that loved us and prepared for eternal life; the great benefit of our trials.



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