

Don't Waste the Pain of Your Trials Pt.2

May 17, 2015 AM

James 1:2-4

- 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
- 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
- 4 But **LET PATIENCE HAVE HER PERFECT WORK, THAT YE MAY BE PERFECT AND ENTIRE, WANTING NOTHING.**

THE PERFECT WORK OF PATIENCE

provides you with spiritual skills and life experience that make you successful in your pursuit of God

Hebrews 5:14

"But strong meat belongeth to them that are of **FULL AGE** (*mature, complete, adult, perfect*), **EVEN THOSE WHO BY REASON OF USE** (*practice, habit*) **HAVE THEIR SENSES EXERCISED** (*to train, discipline*) **TO DISCERN** (*to distinguish*) **BOTH GOOD AND EVIL.**"

TRIALS BRING US TO POINTS OF CRISIS, MOMENTS OF DECISION WHICH DEFINE US FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES

- *pain strips away the false veneer of the vanity and foolishness of this world*
- *pain moves us to life-defining, eternal decisions*

1 Kings 18:21

"And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, **HOW LONG HALT YE BETWEEN TWO OPINIONS? IF THE LORD BE GOD, FOLLOW HIM: BUT IF BAAL, THEN FOLLOW HIM. AND THE PEOPLE ANSWERED HIM NOT A WORD.**"

Galatians 4:1-7

6 **AND BECAUSE YE ARE SONS, GOD HATH SENT FORTH THE SPIRIT OF HIS SON INTO YOUR HEARTS, CRYING, ABBA, FATHER.**

7 **WHEREFORE THOU ART NO MORE A SERVANT, BUT A SON;** and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Luke 15:11-19

17 **AND WHEN HE CAME TO HIMSELF,** HE SAID, HOW MANY HIRED SERVANTS OF MY FATHER'S HAVE BREAD ENOUGH AND TO SPARE, AND I PERISH WITH HUNGER!

18 **I WILL ARISE AND GO TO MY FATHER,** AND WILL SAY UNTO HIM, FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN, AND BEFORE THEE,

LEARNING I AM NOT EXEMPT NOR ENTITLED

Mark 4:14-17

16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

17 And have no root in themselves, and **SO ENDURE BUT FOR A TIME: AFTERWARD, WHEN AFFLICTION OR PERSECUTION ARISETH FOR THE WORD'S SAKE, IMMEDIATELY THEY ARE OFFENDED.**

1 Peter 4:12-13

12 Beloved, **THINK IT NOT STRANGE CONCERNING THE FIERY TRIAL WHICH IS TO TRY YOU, AS THOUGH SOME STRANGE THING HAPPENED UNTO YOU:**

MANAGING YOUR MIND & THOUGHTS – *learning to trust when you're confused and bewildered*

the spiritual ability to turn off the brain, stop asking why and focus exclusively on God (your brain will only create more fear, more confusion, driving you to insanity)

Job 13:15

"THOUGH HE SLAY ME, YET WILL I TRUST IN HIM: BUT I WILL MAINTAIN MINE OWN WAYS BEFORE HIM."

Job 13:15 NAS

"Though He slay me, I will hope in Him. **NEVERTHELESS I WILL ARGUE MY WAYS BEFORE HIM."**

Job 42:1-3

1 Then Job answered the LORD, and said,

2 I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee.

3 Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? **THEREFORE HAVE I UTTERED THAT I UNDERSTOOD NOT; THINGS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME, WHICH I KNEW NOT.**

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but **MIGHTY THROUGH GOD TO THE PULLING DOWN OF STRONG HOLDS** (*castle, fortress, fortification*);)

5 **CASTING DOWN IMAGINATIONS** (*reckoning, computation*), **AND EVERY HIGH THING** (*elevated barrier, bulwark, structure, rampart*) **THAT EXALTETH ITSELF AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, AND BRINGING INTO CAPTIVITY EVERY THOUGHT TO THE OBEDIENCE OF CHRIST;**

2 Chronicles 20:1–12

- manage your mind and emotions - *prepare instead of react*
- magnify His power
- magnify what He had done before
- magnify His love and compassion

1 It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle.

2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar, which is En-gedi.

3 And **JEHOSHAPHAT FEARED**, and **SET HIMSELF TO SEEK THE LORD**, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the LORD: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD.

5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court,

6 And said, **O LORD GOD OF OUR FATHERS, ART NOT THOU GOD IN HEAVEN? AND RULEST NOT THOU OVER ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THE HEATHEN? AND IN THINE HAND IS THERE NOT POWER AND MIGHT, SO THAT NONE IS ABLE TO WITHSTAND THEE?** [magnify His power]

7 **ART NOT THOU OUR GOD, WHO DIDST DRIVE OUT THE INHABITANTS OF THIS LAND BEFORE THY PEOPLE ISRAEL, AND GAVEST IT TO THE SEED OF ABRAHAM THY FRIEND FOR EVER?** [magnify what He has done before]

8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying,

9 **IF, WHEN EVIL COMETH UPON US, AS THE SWORD, JUDGMENT, OR PESTILENCE, OR FAMINE, WE STAND BEFORE THIS HOUSE, AND IN THY PRESENCE, (FOR THY NAME IS IN THIS HOUSE,) AND CRY UNTO THEE IN OUR AFFLICTION, THEN THOU WILT HEAR AND HELP.** [magnify His love and compassion]

10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not;

11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit.

12 O OUR GOD, WILT THOU NOT JUDGE THEM? FOR WE HAVE NO MIGHT AGAINST THIS GREAT COMPANY THAT COMETH AGAINST US; NEITHER KNOW WE WHAT TO DO: BUT OUR EYES ARE UPON THEE.

Romans 8:5-6

5 FOR THEY THAT ARE AFTER THE FLESH DO MIND (to exercise the mind) THE THINGS OF THE FLESH; BUT THEY THAT ARE AFTER THE SPIRIT THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT.

6 FOR TO BE CARNALLY MINDED IS DEATH; BUT TO BE SPIRITUALLY MINDED (what one has in the mind, thoughts, purposes) IS LIFE AND PEACE.

1 Peter 1:13

"WHEREFORE GIRD UP (be prepared) THE LOINS OF YOUR MIND, BE SOBER, AND HOPE TO THE END for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 1:13 NAS

"Therefore, PREPARE YOUR MINDS FOR ACTION, KEEP SOBER IN SPIRIT, FIX YOUR HOPE COMPLETELY on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 4:8-9

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **TRUE**, whatsoever things are **HONEST**, whatsoever things are **JUST**, whatsoever things are **PURE**, whatsoever things are **LOVELY**, whatsoever things are of **GOOD REPORT**; if there be any **VIRTUE**, and if there be any **PRAISE, THINK ON THESE THINGS**.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and THE GOD OF PEACE SHALL BE WITH YOU.

MANAGING YOUR EMOTIONS – learning how to find peace in God

during a crisis or trial, emotions can torment and drive you to hopelessness and despair, learning to manage your emotions in the peace of God is essential

Isaiah 26:3

"THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE, WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE: BECAUSE HE TRUSTETH IN THEE."

Psalms 27:1-6

1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, They stumbled and fell.

3 THOUGH AN HOST SHOULD ENCAMP AGAINST ME, MY HEART SHALL NOT FEAR: THOUGH WAR SHOULD RISE AGAINST ME, IN THIS WILL I BE CONFIDENT.

4 ONE THING HAVE I DESIRED OF THE LORD, THAT WILL I SEEK AFTER; THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE, TO BEHOLD THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD, AND TO INQUIRE IN HIS TEMPLE.

5 FOR IN THE TIME OF TROUBLE HE SHALL HIDE ME IN HIS PAVILION: IN THE SECRET OF HIS TABERNACLE SHALL HE HIDE ME; HE SHALL SET ME UP UPON A ROCK.

6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: Therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Psalms 42:5

"Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? HOPE THOU IN GOD: FOR I SHALL YET PRAISE HIM FOR THE HELP OF HIS COUNTENANCE."

Psalms 42:5 NAS

"Why are you in despair, O my soul? And why have you become disturbed within me? Hope in God, for I shall again praise Him **FOR THE HELP OF HIS PRESENCE.**"

Psalms 91:1-8

- 1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say of the LORD, **HE IS MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS**: my God; in him will I trust.
- 3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 **HE SHALL COVER THEE WITH HIS FEATHERS, AND UNDER HIS WINGS SHALT THOU TRUST**: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
- 5 **THOU SHALT NOT BE AFRAID** for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- 6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.
- 7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

LEARNING HOW TO LIVE BY GOD'S STRENGTH

Romans 8:11

"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, **HE THAT RAISED UP CHRIST FROM THE DEAD SHALL ALSO QUICKEN YOUR MORTAL BODIES BY HIS SPIRIT THAT DWELLETH IN YOU.**"

Acts 14:19-22

- 19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, **HAVING STONED PAUL, DREW HIM OUT OF THE CITY, SUPPOSING HE HAD BEEN DEAD.**
- 20 **HOWBEIT, AS THE DISCIPLES STOOD ROUND ABOUT HIM, HE ROSE UP, AND CAME INTO THE CITY: AND THE NEXT DAY HE DEPARTED WITH BARNABAS TO DERBE.**
- 21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch,
- 22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

- 9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for **MY STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, **THAT THE POWER OF CHRIST MAY REST UPON ME.**
- 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: **FOR WHEN I AM WEAK, THEN AM I STRONG.**

Isaiah 40:29-31

- 29 **HE GIVETH POWER TO THE FAINT; AND TO THEM THAT HAVE NO MIGHT HE INCREASETH STRENGTH.**
- 30 **EVEN THE YOUTHS SHALL FAINT AND BE WEARY, AND THE YOUNG MEN SHALL UTTERLY FALL:**
- 31 **BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT.**