

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE ON TRIALS

Rom. 5:1-8
What does God want to accomplish in our lives through problems? Why does He allow so many testings? What is His purpose in it? Why must I go through it? How can suffering profit or benefit my Christian life? How can I live victoriously and abundantly through it all? What is my responsibility in the meantime and how can I cooperate with God in the process? Our questions could go on and on, but so will our problems if we don't ask God for His wisdom in dealing with them His way.

When we get right down to it, God really doesn't owe us any explanation. The only thing God owes us is punishment for our sinful rebellion against His laws and for our willful living of our lives apart from Him. But thanks be to God for both His wrath and grace which sent His own Son to the cross to take our sin penalty and punishment in our place. Because of trusting in Jesus Christ alone for our salvation, we are forgiven of our sins and given the free gift of eternal life. Thus we become His adopted children. It is now that we have the privilege of reading and understanding His written word to us. He has told us what He will do in our lives when we respond right.

Let's first of all define trials - "a trial is any circumstance in your life whereby you are responsible to obey the Word of God and make the right decision" (Dr. David K. Johnson). That definition doesn't exclude anything you will ever face, because we are always responsible and held accountable to God for whatever we think, do, and say (Rom.14:12). Purpose right now in your heart to always ask God for wisdom (Js. 1:5). Wisdom is the skillful application of God's perspective in your life. The only place you learn God's viewpoint on life is from His Word. The references are too numerous for me to comment on every one, so your own personal study of these will shed more light on your own "tailor made" trials.

Deut.8:2-6
Phil.4:11

Rom.8:14-39

Job 1:6-12

II Cor.1:3-11

Job 42:5-6

Heb.12:1-15

James 5:10-11

Phil.1:12-30

II Cor.11:23-29

James 1:2-11

Rom.5:1-8

I Pet.2:13-23

I Pet.4:12-19

II Cor.3:5

II Cor.4:7-18

II Cor.12:7-10

Phil.4:11

Job 1:6-12

Job 42:5-6

James 5:10-11