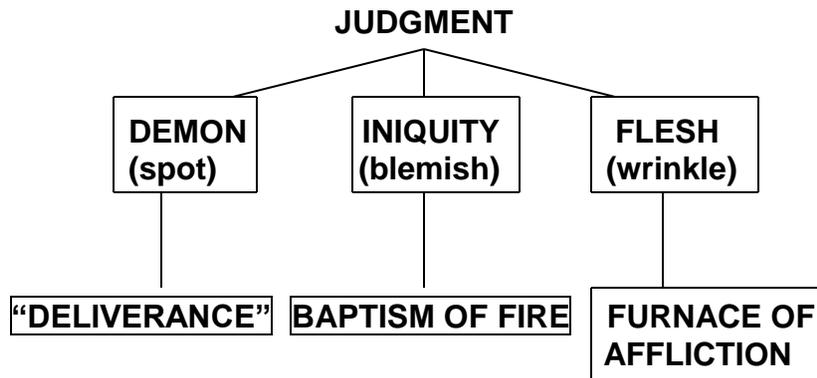


**11**  
**The Furnace**  
**Of**  
**Affliction**

**BEHOLD,**  
**I HAVE REFINED YOU, BUT NOT AS SILVER;**  
**I HAVE TESTED YOU**  
**IN THE FURNACE OF AFFLICTION.**

Isaiah 48:10

We may consider three main areas in deliverance. In one the iniquity is submitted to the baptism of fire. In another, the demon is cast out. And in another, we go through the “furnace of affliction” as our flesh is judged and overcome.



These are the three main areas of deliverance and judgment.  
 You are judged for the intent of your thoughts,  
 every word, and every deed.

(pg.110) Much of the Book of Psalms is written in the furnace of affliction. It was written by King David with the Spirit of Christ. David is representative of Christ, the King. To sit on the throne with *Christ (Re.3:21 "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.)* as David did, we must go through the same furnace of affliction. As we stand in the furnace, the Psalms will give us prayers, understanding, comfort, strength—it will be Christ, the Word, with us as we stand in the fiery furnace (*Da.3:25 "Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."*).

We go through the furnace of affliction when we die to the desires of the flesh. In the flesh is the desire to sin and the habit of sin. In the furnace of affliction we undergo suffering (judgment) as we surrender to God the desire to do evil inherent in the flesh.

In the furnace of affliction we learn to walk by the Spirit, independent and separate from the physical, mental, and emotional nature of the flesh. We learn to walk by fact (the word of God) rather than feeling. We learn to walk by the Spirit of Christ rather than the flesh nature of Adam.

To enter the KINGDOM OF GOD we must die to every desire of the flesh.

**Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are:**

**adultery  
fornication,  
uncleanness,  
licentiousness,  
idolatry,  
sorcery,  
hatred,  
contentions,  
jealousies,  
outburst of wrath,  
selfish ambitions,  
dissensions,  
heresies,  
envy,  
murders,  
drunkenness,  
revelries,  
and the like; (see iniquity list in appendix section)**

**of which I tell you beforehand,  
Just as I also told you in time past,  
That those who practice such thing  
Will not inherit the kingdom of God.**

Ga.5:19-21

(pg. 111) The desires of the flesh include the desires of the mind.

**The carnal mind is enmity against God;  
for it is not subject to the law of God,  
nor indeed can be.**

Ro.8:7

("Carnal" pertains to the flesh and sensual appetites.)

The desires of the flesh include every worldly desire.

**Put to death your members which are on the earth:  
fornication,  
uncleanness,  
passion,  
evil desire,  
AND COVETOUSNESS, WHICH IS IDOLATRY.**

**Because of these things the wrath of God  
Is coming upon the sons of disobedience,  
In which you also once walked when you lived in them.**

**But now you must also put off all these:  
anger,  
wrath,  
malice,  
blasphemy,  
filthy language out of your mouth.**

**Do not lie to one another,  
since you have put off the old man with his deeds,  
and have put on the new man  
who is renewed in knowledge  
according to the image of Him who created him,**

Col.3:5-10

The desires of the flesh include the iniquity accumulated in our heart since the days of Adam. These are the desires to do those things which are evil before God. It is the desire to worship idol gods such as money, material things, the world, your wife, your children, drugs, your car, your house, the works of your hands, your stomach, your sleep, your special time, entertainment, sports, your mind, your abilities, your talent, your skill, your illness, your grievance, your complaining, your sharp-tongue, your looks, your collection, your opinion, your good works, etc. To enter the kingdom of God, we must give up everything that keeps us from yielding, and submitting, and relinquishing control to God in the deepest innermost portions of our heart (personality).

(pg. 112) Does this mean we must give up all so called “fun and enjoyment”?

**For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

**For the LORD God is a sun and shield;  
The LORD will give grace and glory;  
No good thing will He withhold  
From those who walk uprightly.**

Ps.84:10,11

**Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,  
Nor have entered into the heart of man  
The things which God has prepared  
For those who love Him.**

1Co.2:9

**You will show me the path of life;  
In Your presence is fullness of joy;  
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

Ps.16:11

It hurts to die to what we once were, just as it hurts to deliver a new life in childbirth. But without the pains of labor, no new life is born.

**Most assuredly, I say to you,  
unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies  
it remains alone;  
but if it dies, it produces much grain.**

**He who loves his life will lose it,  
and he who hates his life in this world  
will keep it for eternal life.**

Jo.12:24,25

**A woman, when she is in labor,  
has sorrow because her hour has come;**

**but as soon as she has given birth to the child,  
she no longer remembers the anguish,  
for joy that a human being  
has been born into the world.**

Jo.16:21

Thus we can be always thankful for every chastening of the Lord, for it is the means of our deliverance.

**He (chastened us) for our profit,  
That we may be partakers of His holiness.**

**Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, (pg.113)  
but grievous; nevertheless,  
afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness  
to those who have been trained by it.**

Heb.12:10,11

To endure the furnace of affliction we must resist the old habits and old desires in the flesh. As we do so it can feel like we are being torn up inside. It is like a searing hot fire in our heart. As the desire for impulse boils and rages in our flesh, we must sit peacefully in the Spirit, saying verbally, "Die flesh! Die flesh!" Our strength to overcome the carnal nature will not be our own, but by the faith of Jesus Christ.

**I counsel you to buy from Me  
Gold (faith) refined (tried) in the fire,  
That you may be rich;  
And white garments, that you may be clothed,  
That the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed;  
And anoint your eyes with eye salve (Holy Spirit),  
That you may see.**

**As many as I love,  
I rebuke and chasten.  
Therefore be zealous and repent.**

Re.3:18,19

**Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?"**

**They answered and said to the king, "True, O king."**

**"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."**

Da.3:24,25

As we deny the flesh its sinful nature, it starves and dies a painful death. But as it is submitted to death, we receive a greater life *Co.4:16-18 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.)* Jesus is with us in our hour of trial. This is the time of His blessing and revelation.

**For we who live  
Are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake,  
That the life of Jesus also may be manifested  
In our mortal flesh.**

2Co.4:11

You will come to understand this only when you have truly endured the fire with all thanksgiving.

(pg.114) Your spirit, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the word, has authority over your flesh (*Pr.25:28 Whoever has no rule over his own spirit Is like a city broken down, without walls.*). We take authority over the flesh by speaking the word anointed by the Spirit with faith. It cannot be done with the mind. It can be done only from the Spirit. This power comes by speaking the Scriptures. Why? Because the Word is Jesus (*Jo.1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.; 1Jo.5:7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.*) and Jesus was given all authority in heaven and earth (*M't.28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.; Eph.1:19-23: 19 and What is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. ; Ph'p.4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*).

. Every law is thus subject to the law of God. Therefore, if the word of God is spoken, there is no doubt, it will have authority. If you understand this in your heart, it will work. But you must have faith. The word of God works only for those who believe it.

**that He (Christ) might sanctify and cleanse it (the body) with the washing of water (godly sorrow)  
By the word (Spirit).** Eph.5:26

Once I speak the word of God, all I have to do is step back and "wait on the Lord". How long I must wait does not matter. I may not even know when something happened. I will just look back and see how easy it took place and will not be concerned about when it took place.

To take authority over the flesh, you must learn the difference between your spirit and your flesh. Pray for that revelation. Until that separation is made it is merely flesh against flesh. By praying the following Scripture in faith, believing that the word of God is true, you can make that separation.

**For the word of God is living and powerful,  
and sharper than any two-edged sword,  
piercing even to the division of soul and spirit,** Heb.4:12

Then pray that your spirit become one with the Holy Spirit. When you can separate your spirit from your flesh, the Spirit can put to death the strongholds in

your flesh. When you put off your flesh, and your own thinking and reasoning, you can become one with the Spirit. Then you are adopted into the spiritual lineage of Jesus Christ.

**For as many as are led by the Spirit of God,  
these are the sons of God.**

Ro.8:14

If you have a decision to make, and no decision is too small, you may ask the Holy Spirit in prayer for His will. To do this, first pray as necessary your desire to (pg. 115) do His will, and then in the name of Jesus, bind all lying and deceiving spirits, your carnal mind, and any other spirit that might be coming against you. Then ask the Holy Spirit your question, and listen to your heart for the answer. Test the spirit according to 1 John 4:3 (*By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God.*). Then whatever answer you receive, act on it in faith. If you err, the Holy Spirit will correct you in due time, and if you truly thought you were doing what the Lord told you, it will still be accounted for righteousness. You may also ask for dreams on a question. But don't expect God to become your servant. If you haven't received an answer to a question, then commit it to the Lord and ask Him to bring His will on this area to pass, by His Spirit, acting through you. Then trust in the Lord and wait on the Lord. He will bring His answer to pass, but not when you expect it or in the way you expected—you will find out every time that He, the Spirit of God, is greater than you.

Because of the opposition between flesh and Spirit, we must seek the direction of the Spirit in prayer before we can walk in perfect unison with the Spirit, because where the flesh is still in control, it will resist, hinder, and obstruct the Spirit's leading. In such areas you will yield to the flesh rather than the Spirit. You must first put to death the rulership of the desires of the flesh, and then you can walk in the Spirit. You can only yield to the Spirit to the extent that "self" is no longer on the throne, and you have given up your own personal will and desires.

**Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh,  
arm yourselves also with the same mind,**

**for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,**

**that he no longer should live the rest of his time  
in the flesh for the lusts of men,  
but for the will of God.**

1Pe.4:1,2

We cannot give up the wickedness in our flesh by our own power. It is beyond our strength. Only by yielding and submitting to the spirits of God and the word, and allowing God to do a work in us can we give up the evil. It is easy to give up our wickedness in the outer man and cover over our heart, but our innermost heart is revealed only under true testing. Only when it is revealed to

oneself can you make a valid decision whether or not you want to give up the evil.

**The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold,  
But the LORD tests the hearts.**

Pr.17:3

(pg.116) When a man is not getting his way in the flesh, that's when the desire to do evil comes forth. When this desire comes forth, you must will to do God's will. As we repent and go through the furnace, we need to declare, "I will to do God's will!" We declare, "I will (not want) to do God's will," because "wanting" is an evil spirit and iniquity (*Ps.23:1* "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want."— *he who has understanding does not lack.*) To want is not to do. Therefore, say, "I will do it," not "I want to do it."

It is easy to say, "I will do the Lord's will," when things are going smooth. It is another matter to say, "I will do the Lord's will," when we are in the furnace. We are in the furnace when the evil need within is hot and present, and the enemy inside is growling at the doorstep, and we nonetheless continue in righteousness. We are in the furnace when our mind is shouting that we've been done a terrible injustice, and we want to get mad, and get even, and get violent; but instead we walk in patience, longsuffering, gentleness, love, trust, kindness, or whatever is required in the word to make the sacrifice of righteousness. It is when we pray, confess the "old man," declare the word and declare the "new man," instead of continuing in the habit of the flesh to say an ugly word, to go into a frenzy, to feel rejected, to be depressed, to have hurt feelings, to accuse, criticize, or correct, or be depressed, to have hurt feelings, to accuse, criticize, or correct, to strike, to defend, to be a martyr, to put-down, to be negative, to be sarcastic, to back-bite, to cover an evil intent by a jest, to be unloved, to be superior, to withdraw, to sulk, to have self-pity, or to do whatever is that strong-hold in the flesh. By the Lord's testing the strongholds are identified, that they may be declared and overcome.

Such strongholds as these in our life may be just as overpowering as the most demonic desire to kill, rape, or steal. Until we have passed our trial in the furnace, it has not been overcome. If we give in to the urge each time and then repent later, we have not passed the test. If we wait until the urge and the spirit are gone before we say, "Forgive me", or "I was wrong", or confess the area as part of the old man, or declare the Scripture, we have failed the test. The demon has come and has found something in us. Thus we have manifested the iniquity and appeased the evil spirit. The demon has demonstrated that he is still our true master and lord, because we have shown we are still a slave to demons. Thus, we have already given our worship to it, and now we feel relieved and may not mind repenting, and admitting we were wrong. Or we may even repent deeply, knowing we were wrong. But, nonetheless, if we give in while we are being tested in the furnace, the wickedness is still in our heart, and the demon has the right to return or remain. Until you've been an

(pg.117) overcomer by passing many tests, God will not remove your judgment in an area (see Re.3:18-21 and Zep.3:15). *(see Re.3:18-21: 18 "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19 "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. and Zep.3:15 The LORD has taken away your judgments, He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; You shall see disaster no more.)*

When we have been tested and tried in the fire and have overcome the enemy, then we are truly delivered. When the enemy can find no place in us while we are in the furnace, then we are overcomers in that area, and the Lord will set us free.

**When a man's ways please the LORD,  
He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.** Pr. 16:7

We overcome the real strongholds in our life by following the word of God. This requires faith, understanding, the anointing of the Holy Spirit, and action.

**But be doers of the word,  
and not hearers only,  
deceiving yourselves.** Jas. 1:22

If you say, "I'll let God change me," or you sit and wait saying, "God will change me if He wants to," your heart is not going to change. You must change yourself with God's word *(2Co.7:1Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.)* If you speak God's word out of your mouth, then those words will do it. When you do that, you speak Jesus Christ by the Spirit, the Living Word.

**For as the body without the spirit is dead,  
So faith without works is dead also.** Jas.2:26

This does not mean, "God, You show me, and then I'll believe it," or "I'll believe it when I can see it" (the "Missouri mule", *(Ps.32:8, I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. 9 Do not be like the horse or like the mule, Which have no understanding, Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you.)*. God reveals things to you only after you have believed it. You must believe without seeing, or having it shown

to you. You just believe, saying, “God, I know it is a fact and that is all. I accept it, and now I will do it.”

Speaking the word in faith and belief is doing the word (*Ja.2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.; James 3:4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.*). It is action (*Lu.12:8“Also I say to you, whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God.*). Our power from God comes through the Word, Jesus Christ. He sent His Word for this purpose, that we might be resurrected from the cursed flesh lineage of Adam. We must prepare ourselves in the word (*Pr.16:1 The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.*), so that when the enemy comes in like a flood, we can take authority by the Spirit and prevail by the Spirit over that stronghold. There is nothing that we cannot overcome by His Spirit through the word (*Isa. 59:19 So shall they fear The name of the LORD from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him*).

**Therefore submit to God.**

**Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

Jas.4:7

(pg.118) But you must be willing to submit to the Word and the Spirit when things come against you. When you do that, then Jesus Christ (the Word in the Spirit (*2Co.5:16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.*)) can be called your Lord. You may submit by praying instead of struggling or fighting. You may pray by saying,

“Lord, I know You’re trying to teach me something, I know You’re not dealing with anyone else but me. It is I, Lord, for I know nothing could come against me if my way was perfect with You (*Ps.41:11 By this I know that You are well pleased with me, Because my enemy does not triumph over me*). I yield it to You, Lord. I SUBMIT MY WILL. That which You want me to do, I will to do! You are the way Lord, You are the Master. Let Your will prevail, and my heart will rejoice in it. If it is Your will that I know the fault or evil in me, then reveal it to me that I may confess it and submit it unto Your Word and Spirit, Oh God (Don’t tell God that you will confess the sin if He tells you what it is.), Etc.”

When things come against you, don’t battle. Don’t fret. Don’t struggle. And above all, guard your tongue from malice, backbiting, wrath, judgment, accusation, hate, anger, complaint, and every evil word. Nor should you roll your eyes, shake your head, smirk, shrug, or express your wicked displeasure with body language in any way. Instead, pray until your heart is right. Seek out the Scriptures. Confess aloud what is wrong in your own heart. Declare aloud the area of iniquity. Declare aloud the Scripture that is appropriate. Offer the sacrifice of righteousness and put your trust in the Lord. Take no further action than this, and God will take care of the rest) (*see Jos.3:10 And Joshua said, “By this you shall know that the living God is among you, and that He will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Hivites and the Perizzites*

*and the Gergashites and the Amorites and the Jebusites;; 1Sa.17:47“Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD’s, and He will give you into our hands.”).*

**Not by might nor by power,  
but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.**

Zec.4:6

**For he who has entered His rest  
has himself also ceased from his works  
as God did from His.**

Heb.4:10

When things start irritating us, we know that the Lord is calling our attention to something. If anything whatsoever comes against us, we know there is an area in which we are not submitted (*Ps.37:5,6: 5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.*). We must submit to His will to overcome. And we must rejoice in doing so. For if we do His will and our heart does not rejoice in it (*De.28:47,48: 47 “Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything, 48 “therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you.*), we have made a lie out of Him and His word.

**For this is the love of God,  
that we keep His commandments.  
And His commandments are not burdensome.**

**For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. (pg119)  
And this is the victory that has overcome the world-  
our faith.**

**Who is he who overcomes the world, (our physical body)  
but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 1Jo.5:3-5**

When we receive a trial, we should rejoice and praise the Lord for the trial (*2Co.4:16-18; 16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, 18 while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*). Quote the Word! Believe it, and put on the “new man” by the word of God off your lips, believing and living the new man of God’s way!

**My brethren,  
count it all joy when you fall into various trials,**

**knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.**

**But let patience have its perfect work,  
that you may be perfect and complete,  
lacking nothing.**

Ja.1:2-4

Praising the Lord during tests, trials and tribulations is the key to overcoming. Witness the Psalms of David. No matter what the trial, he always praised the Lord through it. When we are in a trial, no one should even know it. The real furnace is when we are dying to the flesh on the inside and it cannot be seen on the outside. If you in any wise murmur in your heart, complain, seek sympathy, or show how God is really giving you a trial, immediately confess it aloud to God and to someone else that the light of the word may drive out the darkness (lie) within. And then claim (live) peace and joy (*Ec.7:14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other, So that man can find out nothing that will come after him.*). (For it is necessary to claim it before you can live it. To claim it is to live it.) In this way the fruits of the Spirit develop (2Pe.1:5-10; Jo.16:33; Jo.15:1-8) (*2Pe.1:5-10; 5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins. 10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; Jo.16:33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."; Jo.15:1-8; 1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.2 "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 "If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.7 "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples).*

**We also glory in tribulations,  
knowing that tribulation produces  
perseverance; and perseverance,  
character; and character,  
hope.**

**Now hope does not disappoint,  
because the love of God**

has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit  
who was given to us.

Ro. 5:3-5

### HOW TO GROW IN CHRIST (pg.120)

2 Peter 1:5-11(below) (Fruitful growth in the faith)

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>1. FAITH</b>              | <u>Unquestioning belief in :God, the Word, the Spirit.</u><br>(belief, trust, confidence, reliance, faithfulness, fidelity, allegiance to and in God)                            |
| <b>2. VIRTUE</b>             | <u>Real goodness of life, valor (manliness), excellence.</u><br>(goodness, honesty, integrity, uprightness, justice, right action and thinking)                                  |
| <b>3. KNOWLEDGE</b>          | <u>Knowledge of God's word and ways.</u><br>(clear and certain perception of something: understanding. Practical experience, skill, etc. Recognition of ONE or a body of facts.) |
| <b>4. SELF-CONTROL</b>       | <u>Control exercise over one's self:</u> over emotions, desires, feelings, actions, tongue.<br>(to restrain one's self from evil, wrong, or violation of God's word)             |
| <b>5. PERSEVERENCE</b>       | <u>To persist unto successful completion in something.</u><br>(To pursue with diligence the course of action selected. To be steadfast.)   |
| <b>6. GODLINESS</b>          | <u>Having the attributes of the word – like Jesus.</u><br>(piety – the quality of being godly-righteous)   |
| <b>7. BROTHERLY KINDNESS</b> | <u>Jesus as the example – John 13:34,35.</u><br>COMPLETE MAN = MATURITY  |
| <b>8. LOVE</b>               | God's kind of love (agape). To be "born of God".<br>NEW LIFE – A NEW BEGINNING   |

*1Pe 1:5 - who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls. 10 Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.)*

*John 13:34 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

**But the fruit of the Spirit is**

**Love** (1Co.13:1-13; 1Jo.4:8; 1Jo.5:2),

**Joy** (1Jo.1:1-4; Ro.14:17; 1Pe.1:8),

**Peace** (Ro.8:6; Ph’p.4:6,7; 2Th.3:16),

**Longsuffering** (2Pe.3:9; 2Co.6:6),

**Kindness** (2Pe.1:5-7; Pr.31:26),

**Goodness** (Eph.5:9,10; Ro.15:14)

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**Faithfulness** (Ac.14:22; 2Co.5:7; 1Pe.1:7),

**Gentleness** (Ph’p.4:5; 2Co.10:1),

**Self-control** (2Pe.1:5,6; Jas.3:2),

**Against such there is no law.**

**But the fruit of the Spirit is**

**(Scriptures below each fruit:)**

**Love: (1Co.13:1-13; 1Jo.4:8; 1Jo.5:2),**

*1Co 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; 3 for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? 4 For when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not carnal? :5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 9 For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. 11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one’s work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one’s work, of what sort it is.*

*1Jo 4:8 He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.*

*1Jo 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments.*

**Joy** (1Jo.1:1-4; Ro.14:17; 1Pe.1:8),

*1Jo 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us—*

3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

Rom 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

1Pe 1:8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,

**Peace** (Ro.8:6; Ph'p.4:6,7; 2Th.3:16),

Rom 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Phl 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

2Th 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.

2Th 3:16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.

**Longsuffering** (2Pe.3:9; 2Co.6:6),

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

2Co 6:6 by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love,

**Kindness** (2Pe.1:5-7; Pr.31:26)

2Pe 1:5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love

Pro 31:26 She opens her mouth with wisdom,

And on her tongue is the law of kindness.

**Goodness** (Eph.5:9,10; Ro.15:14).

Eph 5:9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

Rom 15:14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

**Faithfulness** (Ac.14:22; 2Co.5:7; 1Pe.1:7)

Act 14:22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God

**2Co 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.**

1Pe 1:7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

**Gentleness** (Ph'p.4:5; 2Co.10:1),

Phl 4:5 - Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

2Co 10:1 - Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you.

**Self-control** (2Pe.1:5,6; Jas.3:2), 2Pe 1:5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, Jas 3:2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

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**Against such there is no law.  
those who are Christ's  
have crucified the flesh  
with its passions and desires.  
If we live in the Spirit,  
let us also walk in the Spirit.**

Ga.5:22-25

Dying to the passions and desires of the flesh is not done by one's own power or effort. It is done by the Spirit.

**For if you live according to the flesh you will die;  
But if by the Spirit  
you put to death the deeds of the body,  
you will live.**

Ro.8:13

We do not put the flesh to death by self-denial, self-control, self-suppression, will-power, mind-power, pushing thoughts out of our mind, concealing our emotions, etc. Under these circumstances, it is the flesh that is in charge and not the Spirit. But the flesh will not be put to death by the flesh. When it makes an appearance of doing so, it merely grows in pride and power. The death of the flesh requires something quite different, something that can be so hard to understand, but something that must be found inside. It requires yielding and submission to the Spirit, as the Spirit brings things to pass. It requires that we relinquish the control we have over the flesh and live in the Truth. This requires that we PUT OUR TRUST IN THE LORD.

Before the flesh can begin to die, we must verbally commit each area to the Lord, declare the iniquity and its parameters to God, and ask Him to place them upon Mercy and Truth; for Mercy and Truth were "given" to make atonement for repenters (*Zec. 11:7 So I fed the flock for slaughter, in particular the poor of the flock. I took for myself two staves: the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bonds; and I fed the flock.*). Then speak this Scripture in faith before God:

**In mercy and truth  
Atonement is provided for iniquity;**

Prov.16:6

When we claim this word, the Spirit will bring everything else to pass through the trials and tests that come upon us. All that is required of us is that we yield and submit to the (pg.122) Spirit. This means that in the test we must offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put our trust in the Lord Lord (*Ps.4:5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And put your trust in the LORD.*).

We will be able to offer the sacrifice of righteousness after we give up the evil desire in exchange for the spirits of godliness. The sacrifices of righteousness are PATIENCE, TRUST, OBEDIENCE, FAITH, JOY, GLORY, RIGHTEOUSNESS, INTEGRITY, HOPE, LIFE, HOLINESS, KINDNESS, and

many more. When you offer these in opposition to the overwhelming urge of the flesh, and you put your trust in the Lord (Psalm 37), the iniquity is burned away. This can become an acceptable offering to the Lord. (*Psa 37:1 Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb. 3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday. 7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who brings wicked schemes to pass. 8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret—it only causes harm 9 For evildoers shall be cut off; But those who wait on the LORD, They shall inherit the earth. 10 For yet a little while and the wicked shall be no more; Indeed, you will look carefully for his place, But it shall be no more. 11 But the meek shall inherit the earth, And shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. 12 The wicked plots against the just, And gnashes at him with his teeth. 13 The Lord laughs at him, For He sees that his day is coming. 14 The wicked have drawn the sword And have bent their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. 15 Their sword shall enter their own heart, And their bows shall be broken. 16 A little that a righteous man has Is better than the riches of many wicked. 17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken, But the LORD upholds the righteous 18 The LORD knows the days of the upright, And their inheritance shall be forever. 19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, And in the days of famine they shall be satisfied. 20 But the wicked shall perish; And the enemies of the LORD, Like the splendor of the meadows, shall vanish. Into smoke they shall vanish away. 21 The wicked borrows and does not repay, But the righteous shows mercy and gives. 22 For those blessed by Him shall inherit the earth, But those cursed by Him shall be cut off. 23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way. 24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand. 25 I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread. 26 He is ever merciful, and lends; And his descendants are blessed. 27 Depart from evil, and do good; And dwell forevermore. 28 For the LORD loves justice, And does not forsake His saints; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off. 29 The righteous shall inherit the land, And dwell in it forever. 30 The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice. 31 The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide. 32 The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him. 33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand, Nor condemn him when he is judged. 34 Wait on the LORD, And keep His way, And He shall exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it. 35 I have seen the wicked in great power, And spreading himself like a native green tree. 36 Yet he passed away, and behold, he was no more; Indeed I sought him, but he could not be found. 27 Depart from evil, and do good; And dwell forevermore. 28 For the LORD loves justice, And does not forsake His saints; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked shall be cut off. 29 The righteous shall inherit the land, And dwell in it forever. 30 The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom, And his tongue talks of justice. 31 The law of his God is in his heart; None of his steps shall slide. 32 The wicked watches the righteous, And seeks to slay him. 33 The LORD will not leave him in his hand,*

*Nor condemn him when he is judged. 34 Wait on the LORD, And keep His way, And He shall exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you shall see it. 35 I have seen the wicked in great power, And spreading himself like a native green tree. 36 Yet he passed away, and behold, he was no more; Indeed I sought him, but he could not be found.*

**For You do not desire sacrifice,  
Or else I would give it;  
You do not delight in burnt offering.**

**The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,  
A broken and a contrite heart--**

Ps.51:16,17

Abel made an acceptable offering to the Lord (*Ge.4:4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, 5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.*). Cain did not. Cain's offering was of the earth. The Cain offering is anything you can produce by your own strength: your own words, your own heart, your lip service, your money, your children, your body, your goods, your wife, your home, your good works, your ministry, or anything that is by your own production. Giving these are all required for eternal life (*M't. 19:21 Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."*), but not sufficient for eternal life. You must also know the Father and the Son (*Jo. 17:3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.)*..

The offering of Cain is evil in His sight because it is done with a wrong heart. If your heart is not pure, no matter what you give, it is a Cain offering offering (*M't. 12:33-37: 33 "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. 34 - "Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. 35 "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. 36 "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."*). It wasn't what Cain offered, but the condition of his heart. Cain is like the religious man that arbitrarily tithes 10% (or more) and says, "Look what I did for You, God." Or he says, "This is for my church." Or he boasts in his heart, "See what I've given." God gave him everything he has and he turns around to God and says, "I'll decide what belongs to You, God, and what belongs to me." His offering is not received by God.

Giving money is a pride offering. God wants your praise offerings and your thanksgiving offerings for what He has done for you. Money offerings are unto the worldly priests, the Levites, and the servants to live on. But give unto God his just rewards: PRAISE, HONOR, GLORY, and BLESSINGS. These are neither money nor material goods, but the words from your cleansed heart.

(pg. 123)

Abel offered what he did not have to give. When you commit an area that is wrong to God, and through the trials and the walk He gives you, it has been destroyed, and you have replaced it with new wine, (like a new love for a spouse that only God could give), and you can say, "That, Lord, I love," that is an area you can offer as an Abel offering. It is acceptable because that area was bought by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Abel offered the blood sacrifice, knowing that his heart wasn't right. When you offer the blood sacrifice, no matter what you offer God, it is acceptable. When you can offer the new thing that He has done for you, His Abel offering, to the glory of Jesus Christ, God will accept it because it is His own Son, His own Blood, His own sacrifice. This is the blood sacrifice for which Jesus paid His life that you may have it. And that which came from God, He will accept. It is offered by speaking it off your lips to God. If you don't make such offerings for the things that God does in your life, your blessings will be short.

The difference between the Cain and Abel sacrifice is what is in your heart that makes you unwilling to change. This is stubbornness. Stubbornness is refusal to change inside because you are worried about self more than anything else. You don't want self to change and you don't want anyone telling you what is wrong inside. It is a power within protecting and idolizing self. It is a worship of your self.

**Has the LORD as great delight  
In burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
As in obeying the voice of the LORD?**

**Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,  
And to heed than the fat of rams.**

**For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,  
And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.**

I Sam.15:22,23

"Putting to death the deeds of the body" can only be done in the Lord's way, rather than by our own strength. You must say, "Lord, I put it in Your hands; let all things that I have in me come against me." Then when they come against you, don't try to subdue them yourself. You commit them to the Lord, and you confess them to Him and repent. It is a quality state of heart. It is an action of the inward man.

(pg.124)

If you have to force yourself by repressing things and pushing them down, you are not accomplishing anything. The same problem is still inside and your flesh is just as strong as ever. As long as you're having to fight a battle inside, the flesh is not dead. The evil is still within you. It hasn't gone and you are just learning to cover it over by your own mind power. It still remains because you don't want to give it up. You haven't yet hated the evil enough. You haven't repented with godly sorrow.

When you are truly sorry enough for the evil you have done and you are hurting enough in your heart because you know your ways have been wrong and God's ways are right (*Ro.3:4 Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written;;Ps.51:8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.*), then you will weep with godly sorrow. And godly sorrow "produces" repentance (*2Co.7:10a For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted;*). Godly sorrow doesn't "lead" to repentance, it "produces" repentance. Repentance is a true change in the depths of your heart.

A fool cannot see the need to repent in the depths of his heart. He thinks somewhere inside that he is really O.K. and doesn't need to repent. "I have no sin," he is saying down deep. He thinks that self is greater than God. He does not know who God is (read about Job's repentance). He is looking for an easy way and never trying to find God's way. He does not want to acknowledge that God is stronger. He wants control over his own life more than anything else. He won't let go of his heart. He doesn't want to seem little because that would make him less than king. He doesn't know that God is Lord. He still thinks that he is lord. His problem is right in front of him, but he can't see it in his heart. He confesses it and talks about it, but he is not sorry. Therefore the problem does not go away. Talking is not enough.

But when the spirit of a man decides, "I've had it with this evil", then he will cry with uncontrollable godly sorrow. Only then can he get rid of it. An evil spirit that has rulership in your life can only be broken by godly sorrow.

**But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.**

Pr.15:13

The areas that won't go away can be cleansed only by the fountain of tears (*Jer.2:13 "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.;* *Jer. 9:1 Oh, that my head were waters, And my eyes a fountain of tears, That I might weep day and night For the slain of the daughter of my people!;*) the rivers of water (*Jer.31:9They shall come with weeping, And with supplications I will lead them. I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters, In a straight way in which they shall not stumble; For I am a Father to Israel, And Ephraim is My firstborn.;* *La.2:18 Their heart cried out to the Lord, "O wall of the daughter of Zion, Let tears run down like a river day and night; Give yourself no relief; Give your eyes no rest.;* *La. 3:48 My eyes overflow with rivers of water For the destruction of the daughter of my people.*), that purges the heart.

Without godly sorrow, you cannot really change. You cannot really turn from the evil within until it hurts enough. Only then is there repentance of the heart. Changing your mind and your external behavior does not lead to salvation, for God judges by the heart. But godly sorrow produces repentance in the heart which leads to salvation (*2Co.7:10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.*).

(pg.125)

**My eyes flow and do not cease,  
Without interruption,  
Till the LORD from heaven  
Looks down and sees.**

La.3:49,50

You must see the right way in your own heart. You must understand the difference between you doing it, and God doing it.

A man with a lot of mind power or a lot of flesh power is saying, "I can do it, I'll do it." Or, "I better do it, God won't do it." And so on.

Whereas the man of God doesn't put any of his own pressure into it. He has a different way. Everything that comes up he declares openly before God. And he suffers—and he sorrows. And every time he suffers, and every time something starts to hit him, he says, "Lord, there it is, there is that weakness in me." And he declares that weakness before God, to Mercy and Truth; and he waits until the Lord gives him strength. Then when it is finished and he is truly broken, and he is truly changed, he won't be overcome by temptation in that area. In the light of the truth, it will just seem like foolishness to him.

When God puts you through tests, you can feel the breaking and the burning and the cutting inside to the point where you can't make it and can turn to Him and say, "Lord, I can't make it." Otherwise, you have never really needed Him.

To be a spiritual man, you must give it to the Lord. Let Him be supreme. Let everything come against you, removing all your old physical strengths and mental gyrations. And you let everything come before the Lord. Let it come right out in the open, saying, "Lord, here it is." When a desire or iniquity comes up, you say, "Come on \_\_\_\_\_, show yourself," DON'T STOP IT, DON'T RESIST IT, DON'T FIGHT IT, just declare it before God and others and confess your fault.

The physical man is always trying to figure things out, even when he doesn't want to. He learns and learns the word, but he never learns the Spirit (Truth). He can't learn the Spirit, because he is saying, "God, if I can just learn the Spirit, I'll do it. If I can just learn about You, and who You are, I'll be able to do it." But the spiritual man says, "Lord, I don't need to know anything more. I know You're God. I know You're sufficient. I know you will guide my ways, and that everything that happens is the thing that I need. I place myself in Your hands. All my tests, all my temptations, all my weaknesses, and all my strengths, I give unto You, O Lord."

(pg.126)

The tests of God are not like the tests of man.

**Every way of a man is right in his own eyes,  
But the LORD weighs the hearts.**

Pr.21:2

A man can sacrifice, he can give up desires (of his own selection), he can break himself with self-discipline, he can give up the world and go meditate in a cave for ten years, he can pray on his knees for 20 years, he can live in a monastery for 50 years, he can go to church all his life, and still fail the smallest test when the Lord tests what is truly in his heart. Other examples of self-sacrifice, self-breaking, and self-testing could include good works, knowing the word by intellect, martyrdom, preaching, sacrificing for family or society, and so on. All these things a man does by his own strength. They may even be demonic in themselves. It may look like he is giving up his desires on the outside, while on the inside it is satisfying a desire according to his own peculiar nature (*Pr. 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.*).

**For if we would judge ourselves,  
we would not be judged.**

1Co.11:31

The Lord's tests locate where we are weak, or where our desires are evil, or where we have a blind spot. The Lord's tests hit us where we want to cry out, "It is not fair!", "It is their fault!", "They are the ones that are wrong!", "I can't take this!", "I don't care if it is wrong!", "I give up!", and to cry out anything and everything but, "God, it's me that's wrong!" and to pray as David did,

**I know, O LORD, that Your judgments are right,  
And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.**

Ps.119:75

The Lord's tests locate exactly our points of opposition to the Spirit of God. The Lord's tests find just that point where we want to give up and get mad and have a breakdown. They find where our wickedness is greater than our own strength. By our own strength we would merely curse, pout, lie, blaspheme, get violent, push it down, etc. But God does not test us on our strong points. He tests us where we break down and can't make it by our own strength. He takes us to the point where we need Him and cannot make it without Him. Then we can make the sacrifices of God—a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart (*Ps.51 see at end of Chapter*). Then we can make the acceptable offering of Abel (*M't.12:35 "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things."*).

**Call upon Me in the day of trouble; (pg.127)  
I will deliver you,  
And you shall glorify Me.**

Ps.50:15

Without the Lord's judgment, we die in the flesh. Without His correction, we persist in our error. Without His chastening, we could never become partakers of His holiness.

**Blows that hurt cleanse away evil,  
As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.**

Pr. 20:30

*(see Isa.53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.; 1Pe.2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.)*

God's chastening is His love. The trials we receive and the things we think are coming against us must be understood as God's love.

**For whom the LORD loves He chastens,  
And scourges every son whom He receives.**

Heb. 12:6

If you are not receiving trials, rebukes, and chastening, then God is not dealing with you (*Heb. 12:7 you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?*) and you are not coming into the family of God God (*Heb. 12:8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.*). So be thankful always for each trial and express your thanksgiving to God (*1Pe.4:13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.*). If you don't He will take them away. Witness the thanksgivings of David in the Book of Psalms.

God's love is also judgment.

**But when we are judged,  
we are chastened by the Lord,  
that we may not be condemned  
with the world.**

1Co.11:32

But the world, in its foolishness, thinks it's God's love when they get what they want. They think of God's love as something that makes them feel good. If it were only that, we could never escape our own unreality, deception, iniquity, and flesh. Once we get a glimpse of the wickedness and self-deception of the man of the earth, the flesh man, and see how off-track we have really been, then we understand how precious the Lord's judgments are.

**The judgments of the LORD are true  
And righteous altogether.**

**More to be desired are they than gold,  
Yea, than much fine gold;  
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.**

Ps.19:9,10

(pg.128)

When we know this we will pray daily for trials and tests and commit every new area of flesh we discover. We will seek the Lord's chastening and rebukes with all our heart. We will pray as David did:

**Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
Try me, and know my anxieties;  
And see if there is any wicked way in me,  
And lead me in the way everlasting.**

Ps. 139:23,24

“Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.” (Heb.12:11; see also 1Pe.1:6,7). .” *(Heb. 12:11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.; see also 1Pe.1:6,7 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,.)* It is the fruit of righteousness that will supply you with an entrance into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ *(2Pe.1:11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.)*

**To him who overcomes  
I will grant to sit with Me on My throne,  
as I also overcame  
and sat down with My Father on His throne.**

Re. 3:21

**He who overcomes shall inherit all things,  
and I will be his God  
and he shall be My son.**

**But the cowardly, unbelieving,  
abominable, murderers,  
sexually immoral, sorcerers,  
idolaters, and all liars  
shall have their part in the lake  
which burns with fire and brimstone,  
which is the second death.**

Re. 21:7,8

But to put off the above only in our outward, visible actions (in the deeds of the flesh) is not sufficient. We must be cleansed to the very heart of the desire to do evil (iniquity), even to the intents of our thoughts. For God judges the hearts, and not the evil works afterwards.

Therefore you are counseled to submit, to cleanse thyself, to be found without spot (demon), wrinkle (flesh) or blemish (iniquity). This is deliverance that you may be made free (*Jo.8:32*“*And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”) to serve the Lord your God with a pure heart and clean hands. When the old man has been cast out and the new man has been put on, then, you may begin to “know” the Lord God and Father of all.

*\*Reference, pg. 126, slide 80*

*Psa 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. 4 Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight—That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. 6 Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.:8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. 9 Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.11 Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. 14 Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness.15 O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart—These, O God, You will not despise.18 Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem.19 Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.*