



Series: Promises

Sermon: Part 5: The Promise of Trials

Date: Sunday, July 30th, 2023

Trials: Difficult experiences and problems we face in life that cause us to suffer

Our Different Perspectives When Facing Trials

- 1. Trials are seen as _____ and bring us despair and anger**
- 2. Trials can _____ us to faith in God**
- 3. Trials can _____ us**
- 4. Trials can _____ and make our faith stronger**

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles scattered throughout the provinces of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with His blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance. ... Though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. (1 Peter 1:1-2, 6)

We too need encouragement when facing trials and our response to those trials will directly impact the _____ of our faith.

Our Encouragement When Facing Trials

- 1. We are _____**

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To God's elect, exiles ... who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with His blood... (1 Peter 1:1-2)

Triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, all One God, 3 in 1.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... (1 Peter 1:3)

"Father, if You are willing, take this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done." (Luke 22:42)



2. We have been given an inheritance that cannot _____

*...an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in Heaven for you...
(1 Peter 1:4)*

Peter describes this inheritance as salvation.

3. Our suffering is not wasted because God is using trials to _____ our faith

In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. (1 Peter 1:6-7)

We can feel joy in our hearts even in the midst of suffering. It is not that we will feel happy about our trials, but that we can experience both pain and hope at the same time.

Scriptures referenced: Job 1:8-11 & Job 42:5

The trials we face will be used by God to refine our faith.

What Do We Do?

- 1. Remember that trials are inevitable while on this Earth (John 16:33)**
- 2. Remember who you are**
- 3. Your reward awaits in Heaven and all of your tears will be wiped away (1 Peter 1:4-5)**
- 4. Offer your trials to God and see how He wants to refine your faith**

Bottom Line: When facing trials, remember that God chose you, has an inheritance for you, and is refining your faith.

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. From the four perspectives we can have when facing trials, which perspective do you typically have?
2. How does knowing that our identity is in Jesus change our perspective when it comes to our sufferings?
3. How is your current trial an invitation for you to lean on God even more and to trust Him?

Songs used in service: Good Good Father (Chris Tomlin), It Is Well With My Soul (Horatio Spafford), Refiner (Maverick City Music), Goodness of God (Rhett Walker)

-----Tear Here -----

Any prayer requests?

Name: _____ **Email (so we can follow up):** _____

What can we be praying for you about?