

DON'T WASTE YOUR TRIALS
THE DESIGN OF OUR TRIALS-PART 1
1 PETER 1:3-9

Introduction

Job said in *Job 14:1*—“*Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.*” And all God’s people said? “AMEN!!!”

Even those of us who rejoice in Christ and rest in the salvation that He gives, even we suffer grief from all kinds of trials and tribulations in this life.

We suffer them just as much, and sometimes even more so, than those who don’t know Christ.

Author and preacher George Sweeting said there are three things to remember concerning trials:

1. *Trials are the common experience of all of us. No one is immune. Trials are a part of living. (1 Corinthians 10:13)*
2. *Trials are transitory. i.e. Trials, though difficult are “for a little while.”*
3. *Trials are lessons that shouldn’t be wasted. Though not enjoyable or necessarily good in themselves, trials constitute a divine work for our ultimate good. Jesus never promised an easy journey, but He did promise a safe landing. (Great Quotes & Illustrations, compiled by George Sweeting, p. 6, Word, Inc., 1985)*

That goes right along with what I want to say in this message and in the messages to come on this subject.

We who are saved know that, through Christ our Saviour, we have been saved from the **penalty of sin** through His blood!

We also know that through Christ we have been saved or delivered from the **power of sin** through His blood! (i.e. Sin doesn’t have dominion over us any more.)

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We also know that through Christ, one day soon, we will be delivered from the very **presence of sin!**

But until then, we still live in a sin-cursed world and in this flesh that has been affected so very deeply by the sin we were born with! And because of that, we still face trials and temptations while we are here.

In our text, we see that Peter wanted to assure these Christians he addressed of their hope in Christ as they faced many different kinds of trials and temptations.

Today I want to bring you the first message on this subject—***DON'T WASTE YOUR TRIALS.***

Today, I want us to see ***THE DESIGN OF OUR TRIALS:***

I. WE WASTE OUR TRIALS WHEN WE DON'T SEE THEM AS BEING DESIGNED BY GOD FOR US!

Stay with me now or you might misunderstand and get discouraged or even get mad at God, so you need to listen closely.

God Designs Our Trials For Us! (Job 23:1-10)

We need to realize, that when the heat gets turned up in our life, God’s hand is on the thermostat. *Psalms 66:10*—“*For thou, O God, hast proved us: thou hast tried us, as silver is tried.*”

How is silver tried or purified? With fire or with heat.

What does heat do when it is applied to silver or gold? It causes the impurities (the dross) to separate from the gold. In this process, the gold loses none of its nature, it is only purified and becomes more valuable.

Someone once said, “*Fire is the test of gold; adversity of strong men.*”

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In **verse 7** of our text Peter says that our faith is more precious than gold, and that God allows our faith to be tried.

1 Corinthians 10:13—“*There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.***”

It will not do for us to say that God only uses our trials but does not design them. Because, what God permits, He permits for a reason. And that reason is His design.

When God foresees a particular trial coming into our lives, He can choose to stop it or not. Since God is infinitely wise, it is right for us to call this purpose a design.

We know that Satan and his forces are real and they are the source of many temptations and trials. But they don't have the final say in what trials happen in our lives or in how difficult those trials become (we'll see more about that in a minute.)

If we don't believe that trials that we face are designed for us by God, then we will waste those trials. By “waste” I mean we'll miss the blessing that God has for us in and through those trials.

WE WASTE OUR TRIALS WHEN WE DON'T SEE THEM AS BEING DESIGNED BY GOD FOR US!

**We don't have time to get into it today, but next we will see:
WE WASTE OUR TRIALS WHEN WE DON'T SEE THEM AS
BEING DESIGNED BY GOD FOR HIS GLORY!**

The trials we face are for us, but are also for HIS (GOD'S) GLORY!

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Revelation 4:11—“*. . . **for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.***”

Colossians 1:16—“*. . . **all things were created by him, and for him:***”

Romans 11:36—“***For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things:. . .***”

1 Corinthians 10:31—“*Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or **whatsoever** ye do [suffering?, facing difficult trials?, facing temptations?], **do all to the glory of God.***”

Conclusion

Whatever you are going through this morning, be sure to make the primary purpose in your life, God's primary purpose—that is, HIS GLORY!

God has designed it for your good and for His glory!