

The Blessedness of Trials

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What does it mean to be blessed?

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blessed?
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• The Greeks said the rich were

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See the huge contrast between their description and that of Christ's in the Beatitudes:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, they that mourn, the meek, they who hunger & thirst after righteousness etc."

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Note the huge difference:

- The world sees 'blessedness' as the absence of problems***
- Christ declares 'blessedness' in the midst of problems***

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(trial)?***

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- It speaks of the trial of one's faith (see verse 3)***
 - It means more than to simply have a trial—all do!***
 - It's "Hupomeno", "to stay under"***
 - It's to remain true, constant, as soldiers holding***

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Keep two things in mind:

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·The presence of trials doesn't mean lack of 'blessedness'!

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Keep two things in mind:

- The presence of trials doesn't mean lack of 'blessedness'!***
- The absence of trials doesn't mean you're 'blessed'***

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What is the purpose of the trial?

- Our service, obedience, & perseverance flow from love of God***
- These are not the cause of our love, but the manifestation of our love!***