

Trials and tribulations

What is a trial? What is a tribulation?

a test of the performance, qualities, or suitability of someone or something.

a state of great trouble or suffering.

The purpose of our lives is... to love God and be conformed to His image, and to love others as a result of that. So everything that leads to that goal is essentially good.

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Romans 8:28 NKJV

Why? Why do all things work for good?

1. God loves you. We may be tempted to think he's angry or doesn't care
2. if all things are in His hands, then all things are intentional. Nothing is coincidence or by accident
3. If we are moving in His will, and if He cares about us, then no situation will not be used for His purpose.

A threshing board, also known as a threshing sledge or tribulum in Latin, is a tool used to separate grain from straw during the harvest process.

To separate the grain from the chaff. Both people and qualities.

Where do they come from? From us, the devil, or God. Doesn't matter. Adam Eve or Job, Jonah, Joseph. All stories that have a miraculous ending.

Universal truths

1. There is no problem that is unsolvable. None. If there is a door closed, God will open it. You say to yourself if not today tomorrow. If not this door He will open another.
2. God allows them so you can see Him. That's why Paul says "count it all joy when you fall into various trials and tribulations" "knowing that the testing of your perseverance produces faith"
 1. Think of any miracle in the Bible that makes you say wow. It was because it was an unsolvable problem.
 1. Mary and Martha were upset when they saw the Lord when He came to raise Lazarus cause of the limits they put on Him

2. The disciples when Christ was sleeping on the boat— you are sleeping and we are perishing!
How can you perish, when the source of life is next to you

3. The disciples in the 11th hour hour so that their patience can produce faith in the future.

3. To change something in you that needs changing

1. If God who is Lord of all is working, we need to work too. And if we are weak in something, we'll feel it. Arguments, or failures, or discomfort are all signs that we are weak in something and need to pray and work on something.

1. Zaccheus who was the most sinful and hated, when Christ visited Him he said I'll give fourfold to anyone who I took from. His greed was cured. Also he invited all of the other tax collectors to his house as well. His evil relationships were cured.

2. Whatever your weakness may be, or many weaknesses, God will be happy
We want to see God in our lives. What do we say? Show yourself! Do a miracle? But what about what we know about Christ is that. They also said that to Him on Palm Sunday. He comes lowly, quiet, humble, but He comes with an experience only for you. I can describe how chocolate cake tastes to you, but for you to taste it is something else completely.

When we go through trials we are able to love others better

1. Humility- when someone suffers I think of them more and want to be there for them more

2. Understanding- I can understand how they're feeling and want to sit in the feeling with them

3. Willingness to help- if there is anything I can do I will.

If we take the first half of any miraculous story in the Bible, it is a horror story. If we continue the story to the end, it is a wonderful inspirational and amazing story.

Christ is the hero of every story.