

The Worth of Pain & Suffering

Christian Attitude & Response to Trials

- Jam 1:2 Count it all joy, my brethren, when ye fall into manifold temptations;
- 3 Knowing that the proving of your faith worketh patience.
- 4 And let patience have *its* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing.

Similar Verse

- **Rom 5:3** And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;
- Rom 5:4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:
- Talks about our justification through faith in Christ to have joy, peace & hope of salvation.

God is in Control When We are Tested

- **1Co 10:13** (KJVR) 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*.

Our God is Faithful & Just

- Preceded by accounts of Deliverance of Noah, Lot and family from Sodom & Gomorrah, Job who endured not only Satan but his friends & family
- 2Pe 2:9 the Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation, and to keep the unrighteous under punishment unto the day of judgment;

Trouble Meant to Make Us Better Not Bitter

- **Rom 12:19** Avenge not yourselves, beloved, but give place unto the wrath of *God*: for it is written, Vengeance belongeth unto me; I will recompense, saith the Lord.
- Do Not Add Extra Weight of Anger, Guilt, Self-Pity, Fault Finding, Getting Even etc to our Heavy burden of Trouble. Cast our cares upon Him. Mt 11:30

God's Power to Bring Good out of Bad

- Gen 50:19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?
- 20 And as for you, ye meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.
- Turned the Cross a symbol of shame and death into one of hope and salvation

God's Power to Uphold Us

- Psa 18:35 Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation; And thy right hand hath holden me up, And thy gentleness hath made me great
- **Psa 73:23** Nevertheless I *am* continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand. 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me *to* glory.

God's Divine Support

- 2Co 12:8 Concerning this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. **9** ... My grace is sufficient for thee: for *my* power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
- **2Co 3:5** not that we are sufficient of ourselves, to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God;

Pain is a Process with a Purpose

- Psa 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted; That I may learn thy statutes.
- **Rom 8:28** And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, *even* to them that are called according to *his* purpose.
- 29 For whom he foreknew, he also foreordained *to be* conformed to the image of his Son,

God's Grace, Our Growth, His Glory

- Misery Loves Company.
- Pain Shapes Us to Have Courage, Dependence on God and Full of Compassion for others.
- We don't just make it thru' tough times, we are made by it to reflect the beauty and purity of Christ our Lord.



Pearly Beauty

- An Irritating Grain of Sand causes the Bottom Dwelling Oyster to grow and produce a Precious Pearl



Sparkling Diamond

- Tremendous pressure and heat under the bowels of our earth transform soft graphite into a brilliant piece of diamond, hardest substance known to man.
- Women's best friend.
- Upon this Engagement Ring will you marry me?



Good as Gold

- Pro 17:3 The refining pot *is* for silver, and the furnace for gold: but the LORD trieth the hearts.
- Gold Ring to denote eternal love and devotion. SuffeRing.