

“Why Me Lord, Why Me?”

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Key Verses:

James 1:2-4 (ESV)

Testing of Your Faith

²Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Romans 8:17

John 8:44

1 Peter 4:12-14

2 Timothy 3:12

God Permits Trials and Tribulations

- 1) So we can see our weaknesses
- 2) Romans 5, 1 Peter 1:6-7:
 - a. To test our perseverance, character, hope, and faith
 - b. To “tune us up” at the University of Trials and Tribulations
- 3) 2 Corinthians 1:3-4: So others can be blessed through our experiences and our testimony
- 4) To teach obedience by facing the consequences of our actions
- 5) Psalms 119:67, 71: To prepare us for the time of troubles
- 6) 1 Corinthians 4:9: So all in the universe can see how bad sin is
- 7) To bring us to total dependence on Him

How to Handle Trials and Tribulations

- 1) 1 John 5:14-15, Isaiah 26:3-4
 - a. Pray that His will be done, and fast
 - b. Prayer should change *us* (not others) to be at peace no matter what our circumstances or consequences
- 2) Romans 8:28: Realize and accept that there is good at the end for you and/or others
- 3) Proverbs 24:10
 - a. Remain calm, at rest, and at peace despite the storm
 - b. Peace of mind vs piece of your mind!

Also Galatians 6:7

⁷ Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap.

2 Corinthians 4:17

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, works for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;