

WHY ME LORD?

HOW TO RISE ABOVE THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LIFE

What we have learned so far:

- I. EVERYONE MUST LEARN HOW NOT TO LET PROBLEMS GET THEM DOWN.
- II. EVERYONE MUST LEARN TO APPROACH ALL PROBLEMS AND TRIALS AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR GREAT JOY AND GROWTH IN THE LORD.
- III. YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO TRUST THE LORD BECAUSE NOTHING CAN EVER SEPARATE YOU FROM THE LORD'S LOVE FOR YOU AS A CHRISTIAN.
- IV. YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT GOD WORKS ALL THINGS OUT FOR GOOD! EVEN TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS, AND SUFFERING.
- V. YOU SHOULD SEEK GOD'S WISDOM WHEN FACING SEVERE TRIALS AND SUFFERING.

How do you get wisdom? 1. You ask God for wisdom.

James 1:5," If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all."

- VI. YOU NEED TO REMEMBER GOD HAS PROMISED TO HELP YOU IF YOU ASK.
Heb. 4:16, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (KJV)
- VII. YOU SHOULD REMIND YOURSELF OF OTHER BELIEVERS WHO PERSEVERED THROUGH SUFFERINGS AND SEVER TRIALS.

Remember Job

- VIII. YOU SHOULD FOCUS ON THE ENDURANCE OF JESUS CHRIST WHEN TROUBLE AND AFFLICTIONS STRIKE YOU.

We are told to do this in...

Heb. 12:2, "Keep your eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor. He was willing to die a shameful death on the cross because of the joy he knew would be his afterwards; and now he sits in the place of honor by the throne of God. If you want to keep from becoming fainthearted and weary, think about his patience as sinful men did such terrible things to him. After all, you have never yet struggled against sin and temptation until you sweat great drops of blood." (TLB)

A. When you think about your sufferings and weigh them against the sufferings of Jesus Christ, it is rather humbling.

B. Why you should compare your suffering with those of Christ: it keeps you from becoming weary, from fainting and losing heart, from becoming discouraged and dejected.

- IX. YOU SHOULD KNOW WHY GOD ALLOWS YOU TO HAVE AFFLICTIONS.

A. That you Might Be a Testimony to others.

B. That you might be able to comfort others who are going through the same troubles and afflictions. 2 Cor. 1:3

1. To be compassionate means to feel sympathy or pity for someone

2. To comfort means to be by the side of another; to encourage and support.

3. Comfort strengthens you to go out and face all the afflictions and trials of this life.

C. One of the major reasons why God allows you to suffer and why He comforts you in your afflictions is that you might be a strong testimony and a comfort to other sufferers.

X. YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT GOD WILL RESCUE YOU FROM DEATH ITSELF AND TRANSFER YOU INTO HIS HEAVENLY KINGDOM. 2 Tim. 4:18

A. The picture of God's transferring Paul right through this world into the next world is both mystifying and exciting!

B. In order to endure the trials and tribulations of life, You Should Keep Your Eyes Fixed on the Hope of Eternal Glory. 2 Cor. 4:17

ARE YOU FIXING YOUR EYES ON THE PRESENT OR THE FUTURE?