

WHY ME LORD?
HOW TO RISE ABOVE THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LIFE.

John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (NKJV)

Here's what we've learned in the last two lessons entitled, "Why Me Lord?"

I. EVERYONE MUST LEARN HOW TO NOT LET PROBLEMS GET THEM DOWN.

James 1:2-4, "Dear brothers, is your life full of difficulties and temptations? Then be happy, for when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow. So let it grow, and don't try to squirm out of your problems. For when your patience is finally in full bloom, then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete." (TLB)

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. LET NOTHING EVER CAUSE YOU TO FEEL LIKE GOD DOES NOT LOVE YOU ANYMORE.

Even when God rebukes us and chastises us, He does it because He loves us.

Rev. 3:19, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten." (NKJV)

Today, we are going to see how God uses trials and tribulations to produce "GOOD" in our lives.

IV. WE MUST REMEMBER THAT GOD WORKS ALL THINGS OUT FOR GOOD! EVEN TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS AND SUFFERING B FOR THOSE WHO TRULY LOVE HIM.

A. Why do bad things happen?

1. We must remember that we live in a sinful world.

B. We must have faith in God and take Him at His word that He will work things out for good.

Rom. 8:28, "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." (NKJV)

Look closely at four details in this verse:

1. The words "all things" go well beyond the great events of this world.

2. The words "work together" mean to create and eliminate, place and replace, connect and separate, interrelate and intermingle, control and guide.

3. The words work together are also present tense, which means that all things are daily working together for your good.

God says in;

Jer. 29:11, “For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” (NKJV)

4. The word "good" signifies the ultimate good.

5. When we are in the midst of a trial or tribulation in life we can't see clearly. But God can.

C. The promise to work things out for good are for only those “who love God” who are the called.

1. You cannot reject and disobey God and expect Him to work out life issues for you.

D. How do we know we love God?

John 10:27, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” (NKJV)

Here is a check list to see if you love God and can expect Him to work all things together for good.

1. When one loves God, he has a longing for the Lord.

2. When a person loves God, he will trust what the Lord says.

3. When a person loves God, he will have a sense of peace.

4. When a person loves God, he will be sensitive to what God wants him to do.

5. When a person loves God, he will not like to see God blasphemed or dishonored.

6. When a person loves God, he will love the things God loves.

7. When a person loves God, he will love his brothers and sisters in the Lord.

1 John 4:20-21, “If someone says, ‘I love God,’ and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also.” (NKJV)

John 13:35, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

(NKJV)

8. When a person loves the Lord, he will have a strong desire to keep His commandments.

John 14:21, “He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.” (NKJV)

Are you loving the Lord?