

Responding Properly when You are Tempted to be Angry at God

Romans 5:1-11

I. God Uses Difficulties in Your Life to Build Hope.

A. Challenge of tribulations

B. Exalt in tribulations

1. Tribulations → Perseverance or endurance

Hebrews 12:1-2 – Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

2. Perseverance or endurance → Proven character

3. Proven character → Hope

When you are in a tribulation – a family crisis, a broken relationship, a health diagnosis – rather than being angry at God and turn to a life of sin, remember that God uses difficulties to build hope.

II. Christ Suffered the Wrath of God for You – A Rebel and a Sinner.

A. Three descriptions of the kind of people Christ died to redeem:

1. Helpless/Weak

2. Ungodly

3. Sinners

B. Contrast between Christ and humans

C. Jesus Christ suffered the wrath of God for helpless rebels

Matthew 27:46 – And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

III. God Wants to Have a Meaningful Relationship with You.

A. You were an enemy of God.

1. Hezekiah and the Assyrians

2. Gideon and the Midianites

B. You are reconciled.

I have little doubt that you will experience something like my friend John.

- The tribulation will hurt and you will be tempted to allow the pain and the disappointment of unfulfilled expectations to lead to anger at God in your heart.
- But God has a plan for that trial – it is to give you the hope that comes from the personal experience of watching God use it in your life.

Pastor Aucoin mentioned last week that the turning point for the man in Psalm 73 was the Word of God. Our text this morning explained three truths that we can cling to in the midst of the temptation to be angry at God.

1. God Uses Difficulties in Your Life to Build Hope.

2. Christ Suffered the Wrath of God for You – A Rebel and a Sinner.

3. God Wants to Have a Meaningful Relationship with You.