

If you're going through hell . . .

Dr. Jim Chambers
Highland Assembly of God

Introduction

There are two kinds of people in the room this morning:

1. Those who **have gone** through severe life crisis or spiritual battles
2. Those who **will go** through severe life crisis or spiritual battles

The Central Truth . . . WHEN GOING THROUGH A SEVERE LIFE CRISIS, OR THE FULL FORCE OF EVIL IN THE WORLD, GOD WANTS YOU TO COME OUT VICTORIOUS!

Romans 8:18-21

"I consider that our **present sufferings** are not worth comparing with the **glory** that will be revealed in us. For the **creation** waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the **creation** was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its **bondage to decay** and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God."

1 Peter 5:8 NIV

"Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a **roaring lion** looking for someone to **devour**."

Ephesians 6: 10-12 NIV

"Finally, be **strong** in the Lord and in his **mighty power**. ¹¹Put on the **full armor** of God, so that you can take your **stand** against the **devil's schemes**. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the **rulers**, against the **authorities**, against the **powers of this dark world** and against the **spiritual forces of evil** in the heavenly realms."

The Key Question . . . **HOW DO YOU COME THROUGH A SEVERE LIFE CRISIS OR SPIRITUAL ATTACK VICTORIOUS?**

10 BIBLICAL TRUTHS THAT EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD KNOW AND INTERNALIZE

1. KNOW WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because **greater** is **he** that is in you, **than he** that is in the world." 1 John 4:4 KJV

"For **in him we live** and **move** and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, '**We** are his offspring.' Acts 17:28 NIV

2. DON'T LET FEAR OVERTAKE YOU

"For God hath not given us **the spirit of fear**; but of **power**, and of **love**, and of a **sound mind**."

II Timothy 1:7 KJV

3. KNOW WHERE TO GO FOR RECOVERY

"**Come unto me**, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**." Matthew 11:28 KJV

"**Come to me**, all you who are weary and burdened, and **I will give you rest**." NIV

4. NEVER UNDERESTIMATE HIS PEACE

"**Peace** I leave with you; **my peace** I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." John 14:27 NIV

"I am leaving you with a gift—**peace of mind and heart!** And the **peace** I give isn't **fragile** like the **peace** the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid." John 14:27 LB

5. RELY ON HIS POWER, NOT YOUR OWN

But **he** said to **me**, “**My** grace is sufficient for you, for **my** power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that **Christ’s power** may rest on **me**.” 2 Corinthians 12:9 NIV

6. RECOGNIZE THE SOURCE OF STRENGTH

“**I can do all things** through Christ which strengtheneth me.” Philippians 4:13 KJV

7. TRUST HIM COMPLETELY

“Though he **slay me**, yet will I hope [trust] in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.” Job 13:10 NIV

“**Trust in the Lord** with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; **in** all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

8. PRAISE HIM IN SPITE OF CIRCUMSTANCES

“But ye are a **chosen** generation, a **royal** priesthood, an **holy** nation, a **peculiar** people; that ye should shew forth the **praises** of **him** who hath called you out of **darkness** into his **marvelous light**;”

1 Peter 2:9 KJV

9. PRAY BEFORE, DURING, & AFTER

“Rejoice always, **pray continually**, give thanks **in all circumstances**; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

“Is anyone among you in **trouble**? Let them **pray**. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of **praise**.” James 5:13ff NIV

10. DEATH IS THE BEGINNING, NOT THE END

“When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

“Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The **sting of death** is sin, and the **power of sin** is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the **victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15:54-56 NIV

Closing prayer . . .

WHEN GOING THROUGH A SEVERE LIFE CRISIS, OR THE FULL FORCE OF EVIL IN THE WORLD, GOD WANTS YOU TO COME OUT VICTORIOUS!