

“Trusting Through Trials”

I Peter 1:6-9

Trials are inevitable for both the believer and the unbeliever. What should we do when trials enter our lives? Peter wrote to believers who were “distressed by various trials” (v.6). Why would God allow trials? or suffering? or distress? or grief? In these verses we see three principles related to trials and a three-fold purpose for trials.

I. PRINCIPLES related to trials (v.6)

A. Trials are INEVITABLE (v.6c “...if necessary...”)

1. Jesus experienced trials (cf. Luke 22:28)
2. Believers experience trials (cf. John 16:33)

B. Trials are VARIABLE (v.6d “...you have been distressed by various trials...”)

- cf. II Corinthians 4:7-9

C. Trials are TEMPORARY (v.6a “...though now for a little while...”)

- cf. I Peter 5:10

II. PURPOSES for trials (vv.7-9)

A. Trials are necessary to PROVE OUR FAITH (v.7a “so that the proof of your faith...may be found...”)

B. Trials are necessary to PRAISE OUR FATHER (vv.7b-8 “... to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”)

1. We praise Him as the object of our LOVE (v.8a)
2. We glorify Him as the object of our FAITH (v.8b)
3. We honor Him as the object of our JOY (v.8c)

C. Trials are necessary to PRIZE OUR FUTURE (v.9 “obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.”)

- Trials in this life help to put a real value on the life to come.

1. I Peter 4:13

2. James 1:12

Remember, trials are inevitable, variable and yet temporary. God will use them to prove your faith, to praise your Father and to prize your future. “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance” (James 1:2-3).