

Full Transcription
The Beauty of Trials (Mark 1:12-13)

Radio Host (00:00:16) - Today on light of the word with Pastor Ray.

Pastor Ray (00:00:22) - There is a great misrepresentation and a great misunderstanding of the Trinity Father, Son, Holy Spirit. We and very much the American Church and many of the churches we camp and we focus so much on the father and the son and then the spirit. And that's what I want to speak right now, because we need to see this. If you've got if you see it, verse 12 is going to say immediately the spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness.

Radio Host (00:01:37) - While many of us are probably all too familiar with Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we sometimes give more attention to just the father and the Son. Although some might dismiss this as no big deal, the holiness of God is nothing less than these three components. In today's message, Pastor Ray will teach you the importance of having a solid understanding of the nature of the Trinity.

Radio Host (00:02:02) - In his study, you'll learn that while the Bible doesn't directly address the Trinity by name, we see it all throughout Scripture. Well, let's join Pastor Ray in the book of Mark, chapter one for today's edition of Light of the Word.

Pastor Ray (00:02:16) - They were in the book of Mark chapter one, verses 12 through 13, just two verses today. Today, I'd like to speak with you about trials. You know, the same that's been said and maybe you feel it and experience it that you're either in the midst of a trial. You're coming out of a trial or you're going into a trial. But in this world that we live in, so many trials that we face and what I want to just speak with you today about is what God does in them. And I pray that the Lord would help me to communicate as His word, his, his heart and all the trials in our two verses today. Immediately, the spirit drove him into the wilderness, and he was there in the wilderness 40 days, tempted by Satan and was with the wild beast.

Pastor Ray (00:03:17) - And the angels ministered to him. And what I hope that I would by the Holy Spirit teaching. You know, in every trial, there's a timing. God sets a time in it. And there's a revealing and he wants to show you something. He wants to show us something in the midst of a trial. And then based on what he reveals, he wants to instruct us on what he would have for us. In response to what he's just revealed to us. And there's always an audience in the trial. Always. Whatever trial you're in, there's an audience. And may you always know, there's always love, a loving God in the midst of the trial. And so I hope when we come to the end, based on this word of God, that it's living and it's powerful and it's sharper than a two edged sword, that you'll be able to boldly come before the throne of grace. Maybe you've been in a trial and you've just continually been struggling in your trial and you're wondering where God is and you just think this thing's never going to end.

Pastor Ray (00:04:22) - Or you used to say, What's the purpose of the trial that I'm in? Before I get into these two verses, I do want to back up and get a little running start. And because the importance of it and would you read with me verses eight through 11. John the Baptist would say, I indeed baptized you with water. But he, speaking of Jesus, will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. Verse nine, It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth to Galilee and was baptized by John and the Jordan. And immediately coming up from the water he saw the heavens parting and the spirit descending upon him

like a dove. Then a voice came from heaven. You are my beloved son and whom I'm well pleased. Maybe you wonder why every time I come to the Trinity, I make sure I say, Do you see the Trinity? Maybe you wonder, like, why does he make that point over and over as last week and all the weeks of any other time continually wanting to say, Do you see the Trinity? I want you to see the Trinity because I want you to understand and I want us to continually be on guard.

Pastor Ray (00:05:40) - There is a great misrepresentation and a great misunderstanding of the Trinity Father, Son, Holy Spirit. We and very much the American Church and many of the churches we camp and we focus so much on the father and the Son and then the spirit. And that's what I want to speak right now, because we need to see this. If you've caught if you see it, verse 12 is going to say immediately the spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness. And so the importance of us understanding the work of the Holy Spirit in our life, the Holy Spirit is God. But we can make him kind of a force. We can make him an it. We make him something that we say. We call the spirit down or I need the spirit and we make it intangible. We make it some type of object and we miss. He's a person, a person of the Godhead. And as a person, we walk with a person, we talk with a person, we have intimacy with a person. And if we make the Holy Spirit some it, some object, some force, then we lose the intimacy of the Holy Spirit and we lose the purpose of the Holy Spirit and the purpose of the Holy Spirit, through all the Scriptures that we read, is to glorify Jesus Christ.

Pastor Ray (00:07:05) - In our heart, mind and soul. That means our whole being in every aspect of our being. And then from there it glorifies Jesus Christ into our relationships and into our ministries, into our service unto the Lord. The Holy Spirit. Three things. And we see prepositions in the scriptures to make things easy. And I just make it real simple. The Holy Spirit inside out. I can make it real simple in my thought process, the Holy Spirit inside out. The Holy Spirit is in me when I receive Him as Lord and Savior. And my sin has been washed away and the vessel has been cleared that God can come into and live inside me in. And we need to know that in that the spirit is in us when we come into a trial, as we're going to study that. And this is a precursor of great importance to know that the Holy Spirit dwells in me and in you that you receive. And then outside it's the word happy upon. And there's this overflowing of the Holy Spirit from our lives for the Ministry of Service unto the Lord.

Pastor Ray (00:08:16) - And as I said last week, if I jump into the lake and I come and I hug you, you are going to be as wet as me because you're going to just get soaked with what I'm soaked with. And that's what the Holy Spirit wants to do in our life. When He comes into our life, he gives us the power to walk according to the ways of the Lord and then to minister as Jesus ministered. And when we come in contact with people, we are coming. They are coming with the with the very contact of God Himself. Oh, God help me If today you meet Ray Bollas, what a waste. As rebels can't change your life. No pastor can change your life. Only a man or a woman who is anointed with God and God pouring out as that water from the lake and dripping upon you. And the third, because it's important, is the So there's the in there's the happy upon that means overflowing saturating and then there's the para and we in that word means along with come and the Holy Spirit comes alongside of a person before they know Jesus Christ and tells them, You need Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sin.

Pastor Ray (00:09:34) - Only the Holy Spirit can speak to someone's heart and say You are not right with God and you need your sins to be forgiven. And there's only one way and it's through Jesus Christ and him crucified. And so maybe the Holy Spirit's speaking to someone right now and saying, you know, it's not right, you know it. And he's poking you and he's prompting you and say you're not right. Your sin

separates you. You've been working religion and playing religion, but you know, something still empty in your life. It's the Holy Spirit speaking. You saying you need a savior like glorify the Holy Spirit will glorify Jesus Christ before you. God himself came, took your sin upon the cross traded places, took your wrath so that you would not have to take the wrath of God for your sin. Jesus Christ went to the grave, took sin and death, and buried it there and rose again on the third day, and in demonstration that there's new life for those who are in Christ Jesus. And you can have that today.

Pastor Ray (00:10:40) - All you have to say is. Lord Jesus, forgive me of my sin. I've offended you. Would you come and trade places with me? Take my sin, and I'll take your position as a son. And I'll be able to see the father and he'll receive you. Just that simple. The power of this. Of the Holy Spirit. He's a person. He's a part of the Godhead. And he's someone we can know, we can touch, we can handle, and we can have intimacy with. And we need to understand that because coming into our passage today, let's read it again, verse 12 and 13, just two passages today, two verses. Immediately the spirit drove him. That's Jesus into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness 40 days, tempted by Satan and was with the wild beast. And the angels ministered to him. First thing I want you to see is that the Holy Spirit? Is the one God drove Jesus into the wilderness. That word drove means to lead.

Pastor Ray (00:11:45) - It can even be used to say forced, but it's to draw away. And it. It was the Holy Spirit who spoke to Jesus after this baptism come away. Come away into this wilderness. I've got something prepared for you that you must go through. And this is your time. There's a timing in every trial. Christian There's a timing in every trial. And you have to know that and understand that, or you will collapse in the midst of your trial. You might even extend the timing of your trial by missing that. There's a timing in the trial, and the timing starts with God's drawing. Because if we lose a focus and we think, oh, this is the fallen world or we think whatever we may be thinking and we lose the focus, God's drawn me in to this trial. God had left, has left me here and had brought me to a place. He drew me away because he wants to do something. And I want you to see 40 days. There's a time limit and God knows what the time limit is.

Pastor Ray (00:12:48) - In every one of your trials. God knows what the time limit is. And I want you to know, I want you to see and I want you to understand this, that God's eye is upon the clock of the trial that you're in or the trial that you're going into. God's eye is upon the clock and in one hand is the thermostat. He will control the temperature of how hot your trial is going to be. First Corinthians ten. No temptation has overtaken you such as common to man, but God is faithful who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape that you may be able to bear. And in the other hand, he's holding you. You do not go into a trial alone and you do not come out of a trial alone. You meet God in your trial and God, He has the eye on the clock. How long this trial is going to be in your life? And he has his hand on a thermostat of how hot it's going to be.

Pastor Ray (00:13:46) - And John ten. But my sheep hear my voice. He holds you in your in his hand. You're not going into a trial alone and you're not coming out of a trial alone. God's hand is upon you. Isn't it interesting, though? And I think we've all experienced it. The verse 11 ended with you or my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased. You ever come into that period? Oh, they're glorious. I've had a moment with the Lord. He's done a work. He's done something wonderful in my life. Maybe John has heard God say, my son, who I'm well pleased. I haven't heard those words exactly yet for myself. But he is well pleased. He loves you. And you can forget that in your trial. You can totally forget that. You can actually

think that God doesn't love you. But he loves you in your trial. But isn't it interesting that Jesus baptized spirit upon my beloved son, in whom I'm well pleased. Now come away with me into a trial.

Pastor Ray (00:14:57) - We can think, Man, I've arrived the spirits upon me. I'm ready for what God wants to do. Man. Look at. Look at how God's moving in my life. And then I was like, Oh, how did I get here? Where did I where did I end up? In this trial? I was so filled with the spirit, I was overflowing with the spirit. God's favor was upon me. Yeah. And nothing's changed. Nothing's changed. God still loves you. In fact, God loves you enough to bring you into a trial. If you lose focus of that, you'll lose focus what God's doing in the trial. And you know what? You can make a trial a whole lot longer than it needs to be. But God's working. We're going to see in God's revealing and God's doing something. So just even after mountaintop experience, there are still wilderness moments that God has. I can remember and I've shared this with you before. When I was in Bible college. I'm not bragging.

Pastor Ray (00:15:48) - It's just the truth. I was one of the top students grade wise. I think I made one be in all of my classes. I got ripped off at that one. That's a that's another story. And so when I finished Bible college, I think the vessels prepared. I think God has his man that he's been looking for to send into the world. And immediately, immediately after Bible college, two years of mountaintop experiences immediately. And I don't see it then, but now I can look back and know the spirit drove me into the wilderness, and for nine months nobody would give me a job, period. Not a real job. I was cleaning trash, chutes in condominiums and I cleaned trash. Chutes. You have to climb up them to clear the trash. Guess what happens as soon as you climb up and clear the trash? Trash has to go somewhere and guess who's in the way. Then we'll say that to impress you. But for nine months, nobody would give me a job. And no ministry wanted me.

Pastor Ray (00:17:03) - And what I could see God doing is you had a lot of information. Yeah, You even did well on the test. But now I'm going to give you a real test and you're going to see what's in you. I'm going to truly reveal what's in you. That's our next point of our in a trial is a revealing God's going to reveal what's in us. And God was revealing. What was in me was, You're not who you think you are. You need to be broken. And he broke me and he pulverized me. And he made sure that I would never be a man of pride, that I would be a man who would say. You take these two verses and call me in the morning, he would make me relate the pain trials and suffering and breaking. And it's interesting to me, before I move on to this are for the revealing your cross references. You can read this in the book of Mark and you can read this this story in or the book of Mark, which we're in.

Pastor Ray (00:18:08) - Book of Matthew has 11 verses and the book of Luke has 13 verses. And I just thought about that as I looked at that and I'm reading the other two verses. Mark And true Mark esque, he is quick, boom, boom, boom. We said, we're going to see like 100 topics such as this true, or the calling of the disciples or their time in Galilee or whatever. It's a boom, boom, boom. But, you know, I look at that and I go, Matthew 11 verses. Luke 13. Mark two I just want you to know maybe you're in a trial and you feel it's hot, it's hard, it's lonely, it's painful. And all I feel is people look at and they see two verses. No one truly understands what I'm going through. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness with wild beasts and tempted by Satan, and we get two verses and maybe you feel that way. This trial has been going on and on and on, and someone gives me two verses and moves on.

Pastor Ray (00:19:07) - I want you to know, God knows. God sees every day of your of your trial, every moment of your trial. And his eye is on that clock of your trial and his hand is on that thermostat of how

hot it's going to be. And then the other hand, he holds you and he'll never let you go. So he's drove into the wilderness for 40 days and then we're told. In verse 13. And he was there in the wilderness 40 days. Tempted by Satan. Tempting means to reveal. It means the test. It's a testing period to show what's inside. As I explained as my time of what I went through. These are going to be quick bullets for you. But what God wants to reveal, there's always going to be three things that God's going to reveal wanting to reveal and show you. He reveals something about you. He reveals something about him, and he reveals something about others. Here in this passage, we see the revelation he's revealing about Jesus Christ, the perfect son, worthy to be the lamb of God who would take on the sins of the world.

Pastor Ray (00:20:15) - He shows us something about the devil and his ways, and then that sets us up for the I the instructing because he wants to show us something. But before I get there, I want to talk about this reveals something about us. You've heard it many times. There's storms or they're trials of correction or they're trials of perfection. But I also say there's trials of adjustment. And that's what I experienced so often in my life. Trials of correction. God will put you in a trial if you won't slow down and talk to him and he will put you in a trial to correct you. If you're in a sin, he will get your attention some way somehow to show you if that's what it takes. Look, you've been going, going, going. And you don't realize that you're in sin. And God will bring a trial of correction that you'll actually stop and go, What is it? Then he'll show this. This needs this is the revelation I want to show you. But there's also this trial of perfection.

Pastor Ray (00:21:20) - God wants to take us and change us from glory to greater glory. There's nobody in this room that God doesn't want to take to greater glory. And I pray there's nobody in this room that doesn't want to go to greater glory. We say, Lord, take us to greater glory. And God says, I want to. I will. And but you know what? Sometimes the word and your Bible study is not going to be enough. I'm going to have to take you and put you into a trial so that you'll see me and you'll seek me in a way that you would never seek me any other way. You'll never seek me any other way unless you're crawling up trash chutes and clear and trash. Because I want to show you something. I want to reveal something to you. And I want to perfect you. He who began a good work will be faithful to complete it. And many times it's through trials. And when we're in a trial, we can sit and we can go. Lord, what is this? Is this a trial correction? Lord, is there something in me that needs to be corrected? Speak to me, Lord, and we're going to end with enough time that you can do that today and just say, Lord, is there something in I know I'm in the midst of a trial.

Pastor Ray (00:22:26) - I know I've been going through this for some. Is there something that needs to be corrected or, Lord, is this just a trial of perfection? Then praise the Lord God. You wants to shape me and mold me into something more glorious than I am, because you're going to show me off as a centerpiece to somebody else. But, you know, maybe you're like me. And sometimes you sis, just say I'm good the way it is. I don't need another trial of perfection. I think 1000 trials of perfection. I should have arrived by now. But it seems like here I am in another trial of perfection. And when you're looking for a trial and you backtrack to the trial of correction, ask the Lord, Lord, is there something in me that needs to be corrected? And if there is nothing to be corrected and move on, you know, because we can sit there and we can just go, it's got to be me. There's something wrong with me. There's something. I've been in some trials and I'm sitting there and I mean, I'm confessing every sin in the world.

Pastor Ray (00:23:23) - I'm confessing your sins. Since I heard from John, I'm like, That must be my sin, too. And I'm just kidding, John. And I'm confessing all these sins that they don't exist. I took the blame

for Y2K. I was going through Y2K had to be my fault. But you come to a place in God's like. There's nothing. But don't make something up. This is a trial of perfection. I'm working in you, and I want to do something in you. I want to mold you and shape you into the glory of my son.

Radio Host (00:24:08) - Mark's Gospel lays out for you the Ministry of Jesus. God's Son. Jesus came to this earth to love everyone, to show us what it means to follow God's commands and to genuinely and perfectly love others. Jesus lived a sinful life, never once straying from God's plan. He was perfect, but still he died. He obediently went to the cross to endure a painful death, all because of love.

Radio Host (00:24:36) - Jesus loved every person on this earth so much that he took our sins upon himself. He carried the weight of every wrong to that cross and buried it in the tomb. Jesus died for your sins. Today you could know Christ and the forgiveness of all you've done wrong. You can start fresh today, right now. Would you like to know more? If so, visit CCAAC.ORG and click on the Meaning of life. You'll learn why Jesus is so important and how you can grow in your relationship with him. We'd also like to be praying for you, so please give us a call at 443995 3282. That's 443995 3282. And if you're in the Glen Burnie, Maryland area, please join us this Sunday for church at Calvary Chapel of Anne Arundel County. You'll find out more on our website. Again that's CCAAC.org. Thanks for joining us today for Pastor Ray's message on light of the word illuminating the heart of God.