Faiths Response

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (ESV) For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 5:6-7 (ESV) So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight.

I. Out of your control vs. in your control

- 1. Out of your control
 - a. Moved to Babylon and being indoctrinated in their way's

Daniel 1:3-4 (NASB 2020) Then the king told Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, youths in whom there was no impairment, who were good-looking, suitable for instruction in every kind of expertise, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability to serve in the king's court; and he ordered Ashpenaz to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

Daniel's response

Daniel 1:8 (NASB 2020) But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself...

b. Executed for not interpreting the dream

Daniel 2:12 (NASB 2020) Because of this, the king became angry and extremely furious, and he gave orders to kill all the wise men of Babylon.

Daniel's response

Daniel 2:14 (NASB 2020) Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment...(vs.18)...request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his friends would not be killed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

c. Not worshipping the image

Daniel 3:18 (NASB 2020) But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods nor worship the golden statue that you have set up.

Daniel 6:11 (NASB 2020) Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel offering a prayer and imploring favor before his God.

2. In your control

2 Samuel 11:27 (NASB 2020) When the time of mourning was over, David sent servants and had her brought to his house and she became his wife; then she bore him a son. But the thing that David had done was evil in the sight of the LORD.

2 Samuel 24:10 (NASB 2020) Now David's heart troubled him after he had counted the people. So David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. But now, LORD, please overlook the guilt of Your servant, for I have acted very foolishly."

II. Knowing God is Key!

Psalms 35:27 (NASB 2020) ... "The LORD be exalted, Who delights in the prosperity of His servant."

Jeremiah 29:11 (NASB 2020) For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for prosperity and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.

Luke 12:32 (ESV) Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

*Psalms 103:10-11 (NASB 2020) He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor rewarded us according to our guilty deeds. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.

Psalms 107:17-20 (NASB 2020) Fools, because of their rebellious way, And because of their guilty deeds, were afflicted. Their souls loathed all kinds of food, And they came close to the gates of death. Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble; He saved them from their distresses. He sent His word and healed them, And saved them from their destruction.

Isaiah 31:1 (NASB 2020) Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help And rely on horses, And trust in chariots because they are many And in horsemen because they are very strong, But they do not look to the Holy One of Israel, nor seek the LORD!

- **1 John 2:1 (NASB 2020)** My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
- 1 John 3:20-22 (NASB 2020) that if our heart condemns us, that God is greater than our heart, and He knows all things. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask, we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do the things that are pleasing in His sight.

III. The Just shall live by faith

Hebrews 10:38-39 (NASB 2020) <u>BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE WILL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM. But we are not among those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith for the safekeeping of the soul.</u>

The blessing of Endurance

Luke 21:19 (AMP) By your steadfastness and patient endurance you shall win the true life of your souls.

Hebrews 3:6 (AMP) <u>But Christ, God's faithful Son, is in complete charge of God's house. And we Christians are God's house--He</u> lives in us!--if we keep up our courage firm to the end, and our joy and our trust in the Lord.

James 5:11 You know how we call those blessed (happy) who were steadfast [who endured]. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the Lord's [purpose and how He richly blessed him in the] end, inasmuch as the Lord is full of pity and compassion and tenderness and mercy.

Spiritual Strength

Job 17:9 Yet the righteous hold to their way, and they that have clean hands grow stronger and stronger.

God is disciplining us to get us into this central place of power!

Galatians 6:9 <u>So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.</u>