



# The Kingdom Perspective

## Our “Antifragile” Faith

Hello, this is Pastor Don of Christ Redeemer Church. Welcome to The Kingdom Perspective.

Our faith is a fighting faith because our faith grows stronger in the face of trouble.

This is why the New Testament writer James commands us:

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete [i.e. mature], lacking in nothing. (James 1:2-4 ESV)

You see what James is saying? The path to a mature faith is *through* trials. Our faith actually grows stronger and more steadfast as we navigate difficulties, trusting in the promises of God.

Lebanese-American writer Nassim Taleb is famous for coining the term “antifragile”. “Antifragile” is different than “resilient”. Something that is “resilient” does not easily break under stress (think of a plastic cup; you can bang it around with very little damage). And, of course, something that is “fragile” easily breaks under stress (think of a wine glass). However, something that is “antifragile” does not merely withstand stress; it grows stronger under stress. Think of a muscle. The more you use it, the stronger it becomes, and the less you use it, the weaker it becomes. Your muscles are “antifragile”; and so is your faith. The more you use your faith the stronger it becomes.

Though this may be a hard pill to swallow, true faith is never hurt by trials but always helped by them.

Something to think about from The Kingdom Perspective.

Citation: *Antifragile: Things that Gain from Disorder* by Nassim Nicholas Taleb (Random House, 2012).

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