

1 PETER PILGRIMS PASSING THROUGH

“Bittersweet Trials”

1 Peter 1:6–9



1 Peter 1:6 (NKJV)

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various **trials**,

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2 Corinthians 4:16–17 (NKJV)

16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,





It was evident that Debbie's purpose in life was to teach us humility, joy, and laughter, and through that, we learned how to genuinely love back with the mind and heart of Christ.

Debbie, we love you and we will miss you dearly. Your extra love chromosome blessed us with the love of Christ. According to Matthew 25:23, May it be said that when Jesus received you in Heaven, He said: "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

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Romans 8:28 (NKJV)

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, **who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross**, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Purpose of Trials

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- They Make our Faith more Genuine



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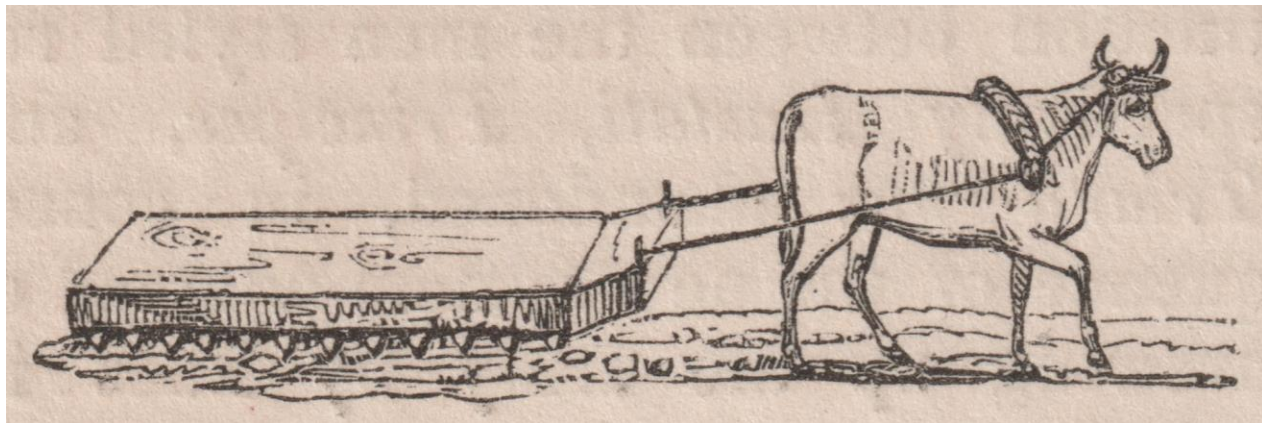
Purpose of Trials

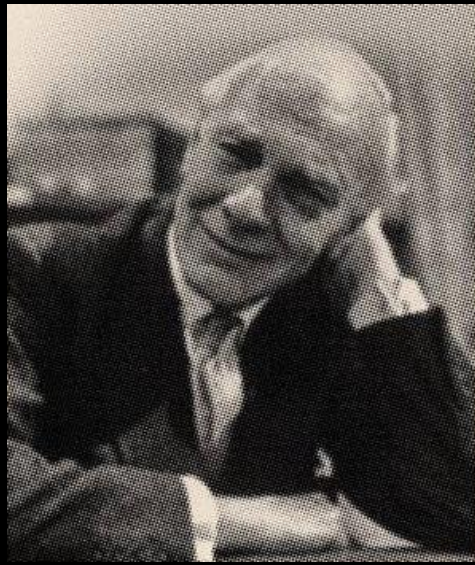
- They Make our Faith more Genuine
- They Mature us, Make us Stronger

James 1:2–4 (NKJV)

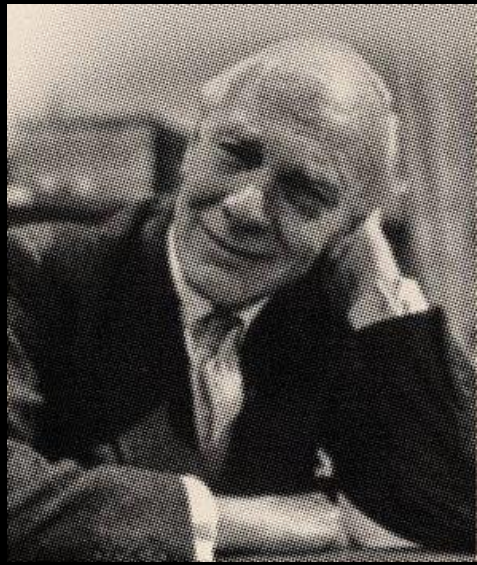
2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.



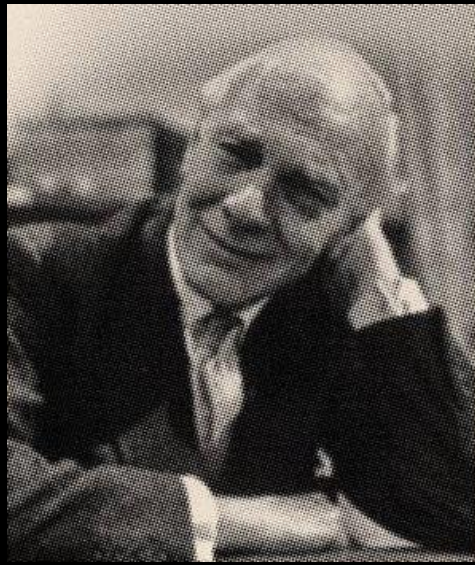




“I can say with complete truthfulness that everything I have ever learned in my seventy-five years in this world, everything that has truly enhanced and enlightened my existence, has been through affliction and not through happiness, whether pursued or attained.



In other words, if it ever were to be possible to eliminate affliction from our earthly existence by means of some drug or other medical mumbo jumbo, as Aldous Huxley envisaged in *Brave New World*, the result would not be to make life delectable, but to make it too banal and trivial to be endurable.



This, of course, is what the Cross signifies. And it is the Cross, more than anything else, that has called me inexorably to Christ.”

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Purpose of Trials

- They Make our Faith more Genuine
- They Mature us, Make us Stronger
- They Help us to Bless Others

2 Corinthians 1:3–4 (NKJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all
comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation,
that we may be able to comfort those who are
in any trouble, with the comfort with which we
ourselves are comforted by God.

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Purpose of Trials

- They Make our Faith more Genuine
- They Mature us, Make us Stronger
- They Help us to Bless Others
- They Give us a Greater Experience of Jesus

Philippians 3:10 (NKJV)

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

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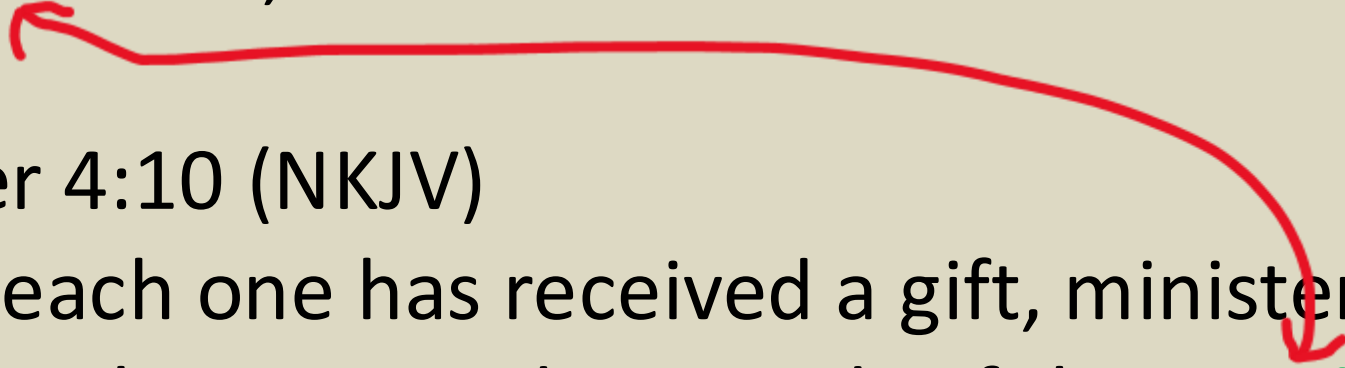
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