

1 Peter 1.6-9 NASB onscreen

Various Trials (Diverse) Trials or tests Troubles

Facts about Trials/Tests in life

- They are interruptions. They wreck our plans. They are inconvenient.
- Sometimes the trial/test is to not let disappointment extinguish our trust in God.
- We are reminded you are not in control
- Trials involve suffering on some Level.
- Some trials become temptations.
- NO one is exempt from Trials and Test

“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33, NASB95)

“Suffering is the Pathway to Godliness”

Job’s Response

“He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD.” Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God.” (Job 1:21–22, NASB95)

“Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face.” (Job 13:15, NIV)

Purpose for Trials

1. Suffering during trials makes our faith valuable.

Our lives reflect our values. What we think is the most important things in our lives is how we will spend our, time, money, thoughts, and energy

What do you value on this earth?

2. Suffering during trials reveals our character, so we are aware of our area of transformation.

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (James 1:2–4, NIV)

3. Suffering during trials purifies our faith.

4. Trials, test, and troubles result in our salvation

“Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.” (1 Peter 1:8–9, NIV)

Trials reveal God’s Power.

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.” (James 1:12, NIV)



Story of “It Is Well”

Horatio Spafford knew something about life’s unexpected challenges. He was a successful attorney and real estate investor who lost a fortune in the great Chicago fire of 1871. Around the same time, his beloved four-year-old son died of scarlet fever.

Thinking a vacation would do his family some good, he sent his wife and four daughters on a ship to England, planning to join them after he finished some pressing business at home. However, while crossing the Atlantic Ocean, the ship was involved in a terrible collision and sunk. More than 200 people lost their lives, including all four of Horatio Spafford’s precious daughters. His wife, Anna, survived the tragedy. Upon arriving in England, she sent a telegram to her husband that began: “Saved alone. What shall I do?”

Horatio immediately set sail for England. At one point during his voyage, the captain of the ship, aware of the tragedy that had struck the Spafford family, summoned Horatio to tell him that they were now passing over the spot where the shipwreck had occurred.¹

As Horatio thought about his daughters, words of comfort and hope filled his heart and mind. He wrote them down, and they have since become a well-beloved hymn:

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to know
It is well, it is well with my soul.²*

What is your current trouble, trial, test?
What was the outcome the last time you had a trial?
How has suffering deepened your trust in the Lord?
During your current trial, What is God trying to teach you?

“Without trials there is a depth of trust, and experience of God’s love, we would never know.”

Nate Elaton