



ACCM

Bible Study: Thursday, January 3, 2019.

TOPIC: Temptation, Trials, Tribulation and Persecution Part 1

II Sam 13:13-17, 28-29.

Another word for falling into temptation is sin.

Consequences of falling into temptation.

Immediate consequences: II Sam 12: 15-18, II Sam 12:13, Joshua 7:1-5, I Chron. 21:9-14,

Generational consequences: II Sam 12:10-12

TRIALS:

It is not unusual to find people mixing trials and temptations. They are different. Trial is a challenging, troubling or difficult situation that anyone could go through. God may trigger this challenge. It could also be a test which is administered, usually over a limited period of time, to discover how effective or suitable something or someone is. In this light when God offers a test, it is often because He wants to determine your effectiveness or suitability for your assignment. He could also do this to get you back to Him. With God our trials or test is for a given period of time. It is easy to identify temptation and it may also be easy

to identify trials. What might be hard to identify is the source of the trial.

OUTLINE:

1. What is the difference between Temptation and Trials?
2. We defined temptation as a desire to do something which is not approved by God. It could actually be seen as a desire to sin. God can therefore never be associated with temptation. Trial on the other hand is a difficult situation that could lead one to go away from God or bring you closer to God.
3. God's induced trial vs the Devil's induced Trial: The devil tries people to fail. God will test you to prove you. Deut 8:2, Jer 12:3a Job 2:3-5
4. God does not take joy in passing a person through hardship. Psalm 37:4, Psalm 84:11, Prov 10:24
5. Whenever God is responsible for anyone's hardship, it is either a test (proof) from Him or a punishment for sin. Heb 12:7, Deut 8:5, II Sam 7:14.
6. Whether a test (proof) from God or punishment, it is always to bring you closer to Him and make you better: Job 23:10, Psalm 107:12-13, Exodus 20:20, Deut 8:2, 13:3-4, Zech 13:9a.
7. Abraham's test: Gen 15:5, 16:6, 17:1, 22:
8. Job's case? What was God's aim and what was the devil's aim? Job 1:7-11, Job 42:10-11. (In this scenario, we will see that God is like a teacher and a coach while the devil is a taskmaster)

9. God allows the devil to try us. Psalm 34:19, Job 1:7-11, Luke 22:33, Matthew 27:3-5

CONCLUSION: We are safe in God's hands. We should not live a life of fear when we are God's hands. Trials and afflictions may come but be rest assured that God is not leaving you in this trial to destroy you. He will make a way of escape. If He is the trigger of our challenge, He will ensure that the devil does not take us beyond what we can handle. We must develop sufficient resistance to withstand any challenge because you may not know if your trial is by God or the devil.