



ACCM

Bible Study: Thursday, February 14, 2019.

TOPIC: Temptation, Trials, Tribulation and Persecution Part 4

HOW SHOULD A CHRISTIAN HANDLE TRIALS

Text: Gen 39: 1-23

Removing trials from the path of a believer is like removing examinations from the curriculum of a student. This might be too simplistic or representative of one reason for trials but permit me to say that a pass mark after been tried is a sure of way of knowing that we have passed through the proper school of faith. We may escape trials for some time but surely at some point in our lives, we will face the challenges that comes through trials. The story of Job is the height of the trials that a believer could go through. Apart from Job, the Bible has lots of stories about challenges, perseverance and victories. It also has failure.

In our today's example, here was a young handsome man. He was very hard working and because of his hard work and the blessings of the Lord upon his hard work, his master left everything to him. The story of Joseph tells us clearly that righteousness does not preclude you from

trials. One could not fault Joseph's work ethic cum his spiritual life yet he was thrown into jail for over two years.

OUTLINE:

1. Examine yourself: Job 31:1, 5-8, Gen 40: 14-15, I Peter 4:15-16, I Cor 11:28, II Cor 13:5
2. Handle trials with joy: Rom 5:3, James 1:2-4, Acts 5:41, Matthew 5:10-13 (This eliminates depression)
3. You are not alone through your trials: Isaiah 43:2, Gen 39:21, Dan 3:24-25
4. Handle trial with patience: Psalm 30:5, Heb 10:36.
5. Stay in hope (Your present situation is not the final): Ecc 9:4, Rom 4:18, Job 23:10, James 1:12, Psalm 30:5b
6. Lean on your friends: Gen 40:14-15, Job 2:11-13, Ecc 4:9-12
7. Draw strength from God: Psalm 61:1-4, Psalm 121:1-2, Matt 26:42, Prov 18:10, Psalm 46:1-3, Deut 31:6

CONCLUSION: Trials and afflictions may come but be rest assured that God is not leaving us in this trial to destroy us. 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. Just like the one who has passed an exam rejoices so does joy fill the heart of those that have endured and survived trials. The harder the trial the stronger the joy.