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JUMP FOR JOY

STORY



SO BE TRULY GLAD. THERE IS WONDERFUL JOY AHEAD, EVEN THOUGH YOU MUST ENDURE MANY TRIALS FOR A LITTLE WHILE. THESE TRIALS WILL SHOW THAT YOUR FAITH IS GENUINE. IT IS BEING TESTED AS FIRE TESTS AND PURIFIES GOLD—THOUGH YOUR FAITH IS FAR MORE PRECIOUS THAN MERE GOLD. SO WHEN YOUR FAITH REMAINS STRONG THROUGH MANY TRIALS, IT WILL BRING YOU MUCH PRAISE AND GLORY AND HONOR ON THE DAY WHEN JESUS CHRIST IS REVEALED TO THE WHOLE WORLD.

YOU LOVE HIM EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM. THOUGH YOU DO NOT SEE HIM NOW, YOU TRUST HIM; AND YOU REJOICE WITH A GLORIOUS, INEXPRESSIBLE JOY. THE REWARD FOR TRUSTING HIM WILL BE THE SALVATION OF YOUR SOULS.

THIS SALVATION WAS SOMETHING EVEN THE PROPHETS WANTED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHEN THEY PROPHESED ABOUT THIS GRACIOUS SALVATION PREPARED FOR YOU. THEY WONDERED WHAT TIME OR SITUATION THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST WITHIN THEM WAS TALKING ABOUT WHEN HE TOLD THEM IN ADVANCE ABOUT CHRIST'S SUFFERING AND HIS GREAT GLORY AFTERWARD. 1 PETER 1:6-12

**ONE. TRIALS ARE NORMATIVE
TWO. DON'T FORGET YOUR FIRST LOVE
THREE. DEATH PRECEDES RESURRECTION.**

ONE. TRIALS ARE NORMATIVE.

AGALLIAO+ AGAN (MUCH) + HALLOMAI (JUMP,
GUSH, LEAP, SPRING UP, LITERALLY JUMP MUCH,
LEAP FOR JOY, SKIP AND JUMP WITH HAPPY
EXCITEMENT, TO BE SO EXCEEDINGLY JOYFUL,
OVERJOYED OR EXUBERANTLY HAPPY. (THIS IS IN
THE PRESENT TENSE, THE READERS HABITUAL
PRACTICE)

WHERE WE SEE THIS VERB:

- **MATTHEW 5:11-12. “GOD BLESSES YOU WHEN PEOPLE MOCK YOU AND PERSECUTE YOU AND LIE ABOUT YOU AND SAY ALL SORTS OF EVIL THINGS AGAINST YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE MY FOLLOWERS. 12 BE HAPPY ABOUT IT! BE VERY GLAD! FOR A GREAT REWARD AWAITS YOU IN HEAVEN. AND REMEMBER, THE ANCIENT PROPHETS WERE PERSECUTED IN THE SAME WAY.**
- **LUKE 1:47 WHEN MARY DISCOVERED SHE WAS THE GOING TO BE THE MOTHER OF THE MESSIAH.**
- **JESUS REJOICED THIS WAY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT (LUKE 10:21).**
- **PHILIPPIAN JAILER WHEN HE BELIEVED (ACTS 16:31)**
- **INSTEAD, BE VERY GLAD—FOR THESE TRIALS MAKE YOU PARTNERS WITH CHRIST IN HIS SUFFERING, SO THAT YOU WILL HAVE THE WONDERFUL JOY OF SEEING HIS GLORY WHEN IT IS REVEALED TO ALL THE WORLD. 1 PETER 4:13**

GOD TELLS US TO WELCOME TRIALS AS FRIENDS.

JAMES 1:2-4 J.B. PHILLIPS NEW TESTAMENT 2-8 WHEN ALL KINDS OF TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS CROWD INTO YOUR LIVES MY BROTHERS, DON'T RESENT THEM AS INTRUDERS, BUT WELCOME THEM AS FRIENDS! REALISE THAT THEY COME TO TEST YOUR FAITH AND TO PRODUCE IN YOU THE QUALITY OF ENDURANCE. BUT LET THE PROCESS GO ON UNTIL THAT ENDURANCE IS FULLY DEVELOPED, AND YOU WILL FIND YOU HAVE BECOME MEN OF MATURE CHARACTER WITH THE RIGHT SORT OF INDEPENDENCE.

QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF:

- WHAT HAVE THEY TAUGHT YOU ABOUT GOD?**
- WHAT HAVE THEY TAUGHT YOU ABOUT YOU?**
- HOW DO TRIALS PREPARE US TO FACE MORE TRIALS?**

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE REFINING OF TRIALS?

- **REAL FAITH IS FAITH THAT HAS EXPERIENCED TESTING.**
- **UNTESTED FAITH IS GOOD IN THEORY. BUT WE SEE WHAT A PERSON'S FAITH LOOKS LIKE WHEN VARIOUS TRIALS FALL UPON A PERSON.**
- **WE WANT TO HAVE FAITH WITHOUT SUFFERING. BUT PETER POINTS OUT THAT THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE. FAITH MUST BE TESTED SO THAT IT CAN BE PROVEN TO BE FAITH. FAITH MUST ENDURE TOUGH CHOICES, DIFFICULT TIMES, AND SUFFERING.**
- **TRIALS HELP US ESTABLISH A THEOLOGY OF SUFFERING.**

**TWO. DON'T FORGET YOUR FIRST
LOVE**

REV 2:4-5 CHURCH IN EPHESUS:

“BUT I HAVE THIS COMPLAINT AGAINST YOU. YOU DON’T LOVE ME OR EACH OTHER AS YOU DID AT FIRST! 5 LOOK HOW FAR YOU HAVE FALLEN! TURN BACK TO ME AND DO THE WORKS YOU DID AT FIRST. IF YOU DON’T REPENT, I WILL COME AND REMOVE YOUR LAMPSTAND FROM ITS PLACE AMONG THE CHURCHES.

**THREE. DEATH PRECEDES
RESURRECTION.**

STORY



**“NOTHING SIGNIFICANT
IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD HAPPENS
UNLESS DEATH OCCURS.”
DR. SCOTT HORRELL**

**CHRIST ISN'T ASKING US
TO DO SOMETHING HE NEVER DID.
HE SUFFERED.**

FOR GOD CALLED YOU TO DO GOOD, EVEN IF IT
MEANS SUFFERING, JUST AS CHRIST SUFFERED FOR
YOU. HE IS YOUR EXAMPLE, AND YOU MUST
FOLLOW IN HIS STEPS. **1 PETER 2:21**

STORY



**IT IS AN AMERICAN IDEA
THAT IF GOD IS IN A THING
IT WILL NATURALLY PROSPER.**

WARREN WEIRSBE:

“WE MUST KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL GOD PLANS AND PERFORMS HERE IS PREPARATION FOR WHAT HE HAS IN STORE FOR US IN HEAVEN. HE IS PREPARING US FOR THE LIFE AND SERVICE YET TO COME. NOBODY YET KNOWS ALL THAT IS IN STORE FOR US IN HEAVEN, BUT WE DO KNOW THAT LIFE ON EARTH IS A SCHOOL IN WHICH GOD TRAINS US FOR OUR FUTURE MINISTRY IN ETERNITY. THIS EXPLAINS THE PRESENCE OF TRIALS IN OUR LIVES FOR THEY ARE SOME OF GOD’S TOOLS AND TEXTBOOKS IN THE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.”

2 CORINTHIANS 4:17-18

FOR OUR PRESENT TROUBLES ARE SMALL AND WON'T LAST VERY LONG. YET THEY PRODUCE FOR US A GLORY THAT VASTLY OUTWEIGHS THEM AND WILL LAST FOREVER! SO WE DON'T LOOK AT THE TROUBLES WE CAN SEE NOW; RATHER, WE FIX OUR GAZE ON THINGS THAT CANNOT BE SEEN. FOR THE THINGS WE SEE NOW WILL SOON BE GONE, BUT THE THINGS WE CANNOT SEE WILL LAST FOREVER.