

# Christians Aren't Supposed to Experience Trials

Part one of the series, "Trending Truths: That's Not in the Bible"

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Sunday, July 7, 2019 • Pastor Tim Ma

"From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. <sup>22</sup>Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!' <sup>23</sup>Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.' <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. <sup>26</sup>What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.'" (Matthew 16:21-27 NIV)

## **Trials are a fact of life and a result of SIN. (v. 21-23)**

(Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23 NIV)

## **We should endure our seasons of trial with FAITH and hope, remembering the following: (v. 24-25)**

- **God is good and will use trials for our GOOD.**

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28 NIV)

- **God is good and uses trials to SHAPE our character.**

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup>for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup>And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4 ESV)

- **God loves us and uses trials to produce HOPE in us.**

"...We also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup>perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup>And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us." (Romans 5:3-5 NIV)

## **We should endure trials as we remember that through Christ, our reward is ETERNAL, and our home is in heaven. (v. 26-27)**

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. <sup>19</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands." (2 Corinthians 4:16-5:1 NIV)

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