

THE TRUTH ABOUT TROUBLES IN LIFE- PART 1

TEXT: PSALM 34:19

**MANY ARE THE AFFLICTIONS OF THE RIGHTEOUS,
BUT THE LORD DELIVERS HIM OUT OF THEM ALL.**

THERE WAS A MAN STUCK ON AN ISLAND HOPING FOR SOMEONE TO RESCUE HIM. HIS PLANE HAD CRASHED AND HE WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR. AS TIME WENT ON, THIS MAN BUILT A SMALL SHACK FOR HIMSELF. HE WOULD GO OUT AND FISH EVERY MORNING TO COLLECT HIS FOOD FOR THE DAY. ONE DAY, AS HE WAS COMING BACK FROM FISHING HE SAW SMOKE. HE QUICKLY RAN IN THE DIRECTION OF HIS SMALL SHACK. AS HE ARRIVED HE SAW THAT WHAT HE HAD BUILT WAS ON FIRE AND BURNING TO THE GROUND. HE FELL ON HIS KNEES AS HE SHOUTED "GOD WHY? THIS IS THE ONLY THING I HAVE ON THIS ISLAND AND NOW ITS GONE!" WHILE HE CRIED AND SANK INTO HIS GRIEF, HE SUDDENLY FELT A HAND ON HIS RIGHT SHOULDER AND A VOICE THAT SAID "SIR, IT'S TIME TO COME HOME. WE SAW YOUR SMOKE SIGNAL FROM A DISTANCE AND WE ARE HERE TO RESCUE YOU"

MANY TIMES, WHAT WE THINK IS MEANT FOR DESTRUCTION CAN VERY WELL BE TO SAVE US. WHEN WE ALIGN OURSELVES WITH THE WILL OF GOD FOR OUR LIVES, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE. IN OUR LIVES, GOD IS MUCH MORE INTERESTED IN MAKING US HOLY THAN MAKING US HAPPY, SO HE MAY USE NEGATIVE SITUATIONS, TO BUILD US.

JESUS SAID "...I HAVE SAID THESE THINGS TO YOU, THAT IN ME YOU MAY HAVE PEACE. IN THE WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TRIBULATION. BUT TAKE HEART; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD." JOHN 16:33

ONE THING IS FOR SURE, WE WILL HAVE TRIBULATION IN THIS WORLD. WE ARE NOT ALONE. THE VERSE ALSO ASSURES US THAT VICTORY HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN TO US THROUGH JESUS.

IN THINKING ABOUT TRIALS, I HAVE 3 QUESTIONS.

1. WHAT DO TRIALS (HARD TIMES) DO?

THEY CONFIRM WHAT IS ALREADY IN YOU.

DURING THE PANDEMIC WE FOUND OUT THAT MANY WHO PROFESSED THAT GOD WAS A HEALER, DIDN'T BELIEVE IT AS MUCH ANYMORE. WE HEARD THINGS LIKE "IF YOU'RE SICK, STAY HOME" THE PANDEMIC CONFIRMED AND CHALLENGED WHAT WAS TRULY IN THE HEARTS OF MANY.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TROUBLES IN LIFE- PART 1

HARD TIMES WILL REVEAL:

1- WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE.

2- WHETHER OR NOT YOU BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU SAY YOU BELIEVE IN.

THIS HAPPENED TO MOSES IN EXODUS AS HE WAS TAKEN TO THE DESERT FOR 40 YEARS BEFORE HE WAS USED BY GOD TO FREE THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

DEUTERONOMY 8:2 (ESV)

AND YOU SHALL REMEMBER THE WHOLE WAY THAT THE LORD YOUR GOD HAS LED YOU THESE FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS, THAT HE MIGHT HUMBLE YOU, TESTING YOU TO KNOW WHAT WAS IN YOUR HEART, WHETHER YOU WOULD KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS OR NOT.

EVERYONE CAN WORSHIP AND PRAY DURING THE GOOD TIMES. IT'S EASY. THE QUESTION IS WHAT DO YOU DO DURING THE TOUGH TIMES? WHEN YOU DON'T "FEEL" LIKE SEEKING THE LORD IN PRAYER.

THE WILDERNESS WILL LET YOU KNOW WHAT IS TRULY IN YOUR HEART, NOT FOR YOU TO FEEL LIKE A FAILURE, BUT FOR YOU TO BE AWARE ON WHAT NEEDS FIXING.

