

SECRET BLESSINGS OF TRIALS | 1 PETER 4:12-19

WAVE CHURCH SD | AUG. 30, 2020

1 Peter 2:9-10 (ESV) *⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.*

1 Peter 4:12 (ESV)

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1. TRIALS VERIFY THE LEGITIMACY OF OUR FAITH

- **Who am I trusting in?**

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (ESV) *⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸ He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."*

1 Peter 4:13 (ESV) *But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.*

2. TRIALS CLARIFY OUR PRIORITIES

- **Are my priorities in the right order?**

Matthew 6:32-33 (ESV) *³² ... your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

1 Peter 4:14-19 (ESV) *¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.*

3. TRIALS PURIFY THE MOTIVES OF OUR HEARTS

- **What is my motivation?**

Hosea 6:6 (NIV) *For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.*

GOD'S GOAL FOR ME IN EVERY TRIAL:

THROUGH IT, I BECOME MORE LIKE JESUS

SATAN'S GOAL FOR ME IN EVERY TRIAL:

THROUGH IT, I BECOME MORE LIKE SATAN

1 Peter 5:8-11 (ESV) *⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

4. TRIALS WEAPONIZE US FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD

- **Where is my battle?**

Ephesians 6:12 (NLT) *For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

Who do we trust in trials? We trust God in our trials!

What are my priorities in trials? We prioritize Jesus in our trials!

What is my motivation? We are motivated by Jesus in our trials!

Where is my battle? We fight against Satan with the power of Jesus in our trials!

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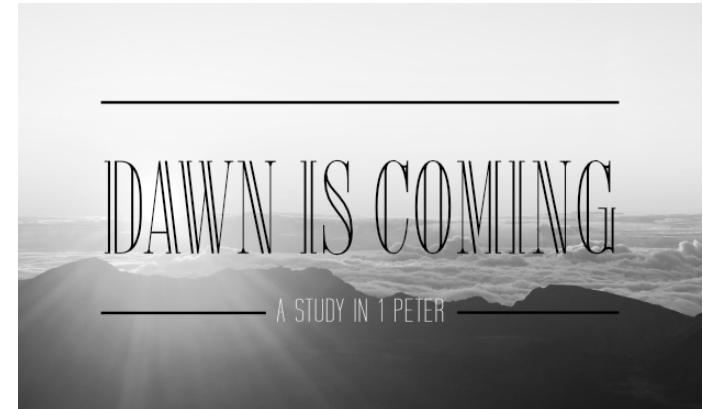
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