

TROUBLED ON EVERYSIDE AND YET STANDING

OCT 07, 2018

TEXT: 2 CORINTHIANS 4: 7-9

7Now we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this surpassingly great power is from God and not from us. 8We are pressed on all sides, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.

Brethren, God has buried in us the grace and power to withstand “every odd” – no matter how big!

In 2 Corinthians 12, Paul said “8Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take (this pain) away from me. 9But He said to me, **“My grace is sufficient for you...”**

James 1:12

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

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REFINEMENT AS GOLD

- Those of you who are familiar with the process of refining gold know that the gold is first placed in a crucible and subjected to intense heat. The heat causes the gold to melt and its impurities to separate and come to the top, where they can be skimmed off.
- This process is repeated as many times as necessary in order to increase the quality and purity of the gold. For example, 10-karat gold does not have to be heated as much or as long as 14-karat gold. Twenty-four karat gold undergoes an even more intensive refining process.
- In a similar manner, God is in the process of refining His child. He wants a pure, beautiful child upon whom He can pour out His anointing and His power. God desires to manifest Himself through His church so that each of us is able to do the things Jesus did (John 14:12-14). (By Charisma Magazine)

James 4:⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

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Our Faith Would Be Tested

Genesis 22:1 “God tested Abraham...”

Romans 4:18 “Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” 19 Without weakening in his faith, he acknowledged the decrepitness of his body (since he was about a hundred years old) and the lifelessness of Sarah’s womb.

Job 2:10 "You speak as a foolish woman speaks," he told his wife. "Should we accept from God only good and not adversity?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

Psalm 11:5 “The LORD tests the righteous and the wicked.”

Psalm 66: 10 “You , O God, tested us; You refined us like silver.”

Be careful that your test is of God

Luke 22:39-43 – “Jesu said to His disciples, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation”

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Those Who Stand to the End See His Glory

Zechariah 9:12

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; even today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Romans 8:24

For in this hope we were saved; but hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what he can already see?

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” (**Hebrews 11:1**)

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, **4who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.**

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Psalm 23:6

“though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.”

Psalm 30:6 “weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

Isaiah 51:3

“For the LORD will comfort Zion, He will comfort all her waste places; He will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in it, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.”

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Those who know their God will be strong to do great exploit

David consistently expressed his confidence in the Lord:
“You shall increase my greatness, and comfort me on every side.” (Psalm 71:21).

Isaiah 61:2-3 confirms that there is a year and day of God’s upliftment.

“To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”

2 Peter 2:9 “⁹The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and reserve the unjust unto day of punishment”

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Isaiah 12:1 - “And in that day you will say: ‘O LORD, I will praise You; though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me.’”

God Comforts us for a Reason

1 Peter 2:9

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”

2 Thessalonians 1: 11-12

11 To this end, we always pray for you, that our God will count you worthy of His calling, and that He will powerfully fulfill your every good desire and work of faith, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

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Malachi 1:11

"For My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun..."

Isaiah 49:3

He said to me, "You are My servant, Israel, in whom I will display my glory."

John 17:10

All I have is Yours, and all You have is Mine; and in them I have been glorified.

1 Corinthians 3:13

his workmanship will be evident, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will prove the quality of each man's work.

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1 Thessalonians 2:12

We encouraged you and comforted you as we urged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

Isaiah 43:21 This people have I formed for myself; they shall show forth my praise.

Genesis 12:2

I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

Jeremiah 51:20 "You are my battle axe and weapons of war: and with you will I break in pieces the nations; and with you will I destroy kingdoms."

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I Corinthians 3:5-23, Paul said:

⁶ I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters .. will each be rewarded according to their own labor. ... ¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because it will be revealed with fire, and the **fire will test** the quality of each person's work. ¹⁴ If it survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

Through God's testing, we our faith is strengthened and we learn to build on the foundation with gold not straws.

Brethren, the Lord expects that after all things we should stand Ephesians 6:13). GOD BLESS YOU!

2018 **PRAYER POINTS**

1. **Pray over the message of today. Ask God for grace to stand His testing.**
2. **Pray that KCM will continue to fulfil its mandate as “the house of prayer for all nations” (Isaiah 56:7), extending God’s love to all the nations.**
3. **Prayer for the Leadership of Nations and pray for elections ...**
 - a. **Pray against corruption and corruptive minds, as they are straws and will be burned**
 - b. **Ask God to forgive their sins and give them the grace to stand the test.**
 - c. **Ask God to give leaders humility for service.**
4. **Commit Troubles/Wars in nations into God’s hands and ask God to cleanse our environments so people will freely serve God.**
5. **Ask God to have mercy, forgive our sins & rid our land of calamities (2 Chro 7:13-18).**
6. **Pray for Ministers and Missionaries to stand God’s test.**
7. **Pray: Marriages, Children and families to stand tall for God.**
8. **Pray for Members of the fellowship – to stand God’s test.**
- 9 **Needs in fellowship & and any special request we have not covered**
10. **Ask for God’s unmerited favours and grace this week and pray for next Sunday.**

