

Hardship in the Christian life

1. What thoughts do we have when we face suffering, trial or trouble?

2. Particular views of suffering

Docetic view- _____ the reality of pain altogether, an _____.

Hedonistic view- at all _____, reduce _____ and increase _____.

Stoic view- we have no control of _____.

“Let nothing get you down” “keep a stiff upper lip”

3. Psalms samples of the life of the Christian

Psalms 106 Our sin and _____ has always been an issue

Psalms 73 The wicked seem to _____, until... verse ____

Psalms 23:4 He is _____ with us. He is using it for our _____ and his _____.

4. NT views of the life of the Christian

a. _____

2 Cor. 1:8-10 Paul despairs of hope in _____. But on God who _____ the dead.

2 Cor. 4:17 Light and momentary affliction, but bringing a weight of glory

2 Cor. 6:4-10 Suffering as a minister of Christ and two perspectives (worldly and heavenly)

2 Cor. 12:7-10 Paul was given a thorn for a godly reason – so as not to be conceited (humbling)

b. James

James 1:2; 12 Both _____ and outward trials and temptations

James 1 We are to welcome these trials as they strengthen our faith and _____ our Christian character.

These things are producing something in our character: _____

The joy James speaks of is a future perspective of joy...a _____ perspective. There is an _____ quality of our character that is lacking as a sinful human being – steadfastness.

This fitness that James speaks of is us being conformed to the image of Christ. He wants that to take _____ in us.

c. Peter

The Apostle of _____ 1:3,13,21

1 Peter 1:1 Pilgrims shows that we are not truly home here, but will be _____ in heaven

1:2 This sanctification happens as a result of our _____.

Setting us _____ from sin. Purifying us for his _____

Obedience on this side of heaven is connected to saving faith (_____)

Election -> _____ not the other way around.

Grace- God's loving and undeserved favor in _____

Peace- the objective _____ of being right with God in Christ

1:3 _____ hope vs temporary hope **Romans 5:3-5**

1:6 If need be... when God deems it necessary for your good (_____) and His glory

1:7 test our _____ and strengthen our faith

2:24-25 He died so that we might die to _____, this is our calling.

In doing so, we return to the _____ and overseer of our soul

4:1 _____ from sin.

5:10-11 This is our _____. This gives us purpose and strength!

5. For what good?

a. _____ our faith 1 Peter 1:7

b. _____ our faith Paul speaking to the Corinthians (2 Cor 12:10)

c. Give cause for _____

d. Give cause for _____ 1:7

e. Opportunity for _____

f. Further grow in understanding God's _____ and his glory (John 9:1-3)

g. To _____ others 1:10-12

h. To show how we are being changed (_____) 1:13-16

i. To _____ that Christ suffered for us 1:19

Indicative- what Christ has _____ ...1 Peter 1:17-21 **Imperative**- what we are to _____ ...1 Peter 1:14-16

j. To change our _____

Bryan Estelle, "God's Purposes in Trials, Temptations, and Testing"

Peter points to being delivered from the bondage of slavery in Israel and links it to the bondage of slavery in sin. (7)

The trial's purpose is to help us look _____ and not look back!

Look to the imperishable _____ waiting for you 1 Peter 1:4

k. When fear is _____, faith is extraordinary 1 Peter 1:20-21