

Sermon Series – “From Test to Testimony”

Pt. 1 – Think It Not Strange

Speaker: Pr. Delthony L. Gordon

Church: Beavercreek SDA Church – 7/08/17

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-19

We are living in a time when the _____ “gospel” seems to be the most popular trend in Christendom today. Proponents of this half-truth say that when you are truly a _____ of _____, there is nothing that Satan can do to hurt you. Of course we know that that’s a lie from the enemy’s camp. But the question is still often asked, “Why, Lord?” One thing is for sure, if we’ve got questions, God’s got _____. Let’s go to God’s word as we (re)discover the Truth about Trials.

Trials are allowed for any **combination** of the following reasons:

1. _____ & Development of Character
 - 1 Peter 1:6-8
 2. _____
 - Psalm 119:67 & 68
 3. To _____ God’s Glory
 - John 9:1-3
 4. To Draw Us Closer to God & Learn _____
 - Psalm 23:4, Psalm 145:14-21, Psalm 27:13 & 14
 5. As a _____ to others
 - Daniel 5:17-23 & 30
 6. To Learn Sympathy and _____ for Others
 - 2 Corinthians 1:3&4
 7. To Create a Yearning for Heaven’s Riches
 - 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
 8. As a _____ - _____ opportunity
 - 2 Kings 5:1, 14-17
- **Trials are** _____ – 1 Peter 4:15 & 16
 - **Trials are not** _____ **events** – 1 Peter 4:12

- **Something is unfolding behind the _____** –Job 1:6-12

The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love **permitted** for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, **and it is for us**. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Saviour, who surrounds him with His presence. **Whatever comes to him comes from Christ**. He has no need to resist evil, for **Christ is his defense**. Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's **permission**, and "all things" that are permitted "work together for good **to them that love God...**" (Romans 8:28)

- Thoughts From the Mount of Blessings, page. 71

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