

# **God of Trials**

Pt 2

*"Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed."* -1 **Peter 4:12-13**

# What Is the Purpose of Trials?

**A Trial is...**

- **the process of proving the quality or worth of...  
...something or someone**
- **a test of your faith, patience or endurance...  
...through the process of suffering**

# **God Means It for Good**

**A Faith that has Not Been Tested...**

**...Cannot Be Trusted**

## Truths about Trials

- **Trials are Experienced by Everyone**

*"Do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you." -1 Peter 4:12*

- **Trials Have a Divine Purpose**

*"Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us." -Romans 5:3-5*

- **Trials Last Only for a While**

*"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials." -1 Peter 1:6*

## Truths about Trials

- **Trials are Controlled by God.**

*"God... will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear" -1 Cor 10:13*

- **Trials Come with God's Grace for Endurance.**

*"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness"*  
**-2 Cor 12:9**

- **Trials Strengthen You in Your Weaknesses.**

*"I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong" -2 Cor 12:10*

## Types of Trials (Storms)

### •Trials (storms) to Rebuke

*"Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Lord, save us! We're going to drown!' He replied, 'You of little faith, why are you so afraid?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm." -Matt 8:23-27*

### •Trials to Rise Above

*"Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.' 'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' 'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'Why did you doubt?' And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down." -Matt 14:22-32*

## Types of Trials (Storms)

### •Trials to Ride Out

*"When neither sun nor stars appeared for many days and the storm continued raging, we finally gave up all hope of being saved.... But the ship struck a sandbar and ran aground. The bow stuck fast and would not move, and the stern was broken to pieces by the pounding of the surf. The soldiers planned to kill the prisoners to prevent any of them from swimming away and escaping. But the centurion wanted to spare Paul's life and kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and get to land. The rest were to get there on planks or on pieces of the ship. In this way everyone reached land in safety." -Acts 27:20, 41-44*

### •Trials We Dare Not Rebuke

*"Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." -Jonah 1:2*

*"And the Lord commanded the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land" (2:10)*