



Summary - Part I

How do we build and grow in faith?

1. Faith is a **gift** from God.
2. From God's perspective, He has already given us **all** the faith for **all** the needs in our lives.
3. From the believer's perspective, our faith "**grows**" as we journey in **revelation** and **experience** with God.

Summary - Part I

How do we build and grow in faith?

4. In reality, we struggle in our faith because of **obstacles** in our lives:
 - A. The **evil one**.
 - B. Failure to grow **roots** of faith.
 - C. Love of the **world**.
 - D. The **sin** that so easily entangles.
 - E. The **weight / baggage** that holds us down.

Summary - Part I

How do we build and grow in faith?

5. For faith to manifest in our lives, we must:
 - A. **Partake** the Word on a **regular** basis.
 - B. In the partaking, hear the **Word** of Faith.
 - C. Continue to nurture the **Spirit** of Faith.
 - D. **Starve** our doubts and **grow** our faith.
6. We will be increasingly **wholesome** as we grow in faith?



The Trial of our FAITH

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by **various trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being **much more precious than gold** that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

1. The believer's faith is a **mixture**.
 - A. A portion of our faith **is** aligned to:
 - i. The **Will** of Father-God.
 - ii. The **Word** of the Lord Jesus.
 - iii. The **Ways** of the Holy Spirit.
 - iv. The **Wisdom** of God.



The Trial of our FAITH

1. The believer's faith is a **mixture**.
 - B. But, the other portion of our faith comprise **impurities** that are **not** aligned with the **Will, Word, Ways** and **Wisdom** of God.



The Trial of our FAITH

- 2A. Impurities in gold are purified by **fire**.
- 2B. Similarly, **trials** in our lives, like fire, purifies our faith.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various **trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

- 2C. Trials are for a **season**.
This season, in the light of eternity, is a **little while**.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now **for a little while**, if need be, you have been grieved by **various trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

- 2D. Trials are **grievous** / **painful** to the person undergoing it.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been **grieved by various trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

- 2E. Trials are only as **needed**, and seem to attract those whose faith are not genuine.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, **if need be**, you have been **grieved by various trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

2F. The genuineness of our faith will see us through to the **end** of our lives when we meet the Lord.

1 Peter 1:6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been **grieved by various trials**, **7** that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is **tested by fire**, **may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ...**

1 Peter 1:6-7



The Trial of our FAITH

3A. We do not have **absolute** knowledge.



The Trial of our FAITH

3B. There will be situations where we will **not** completely know and understand on this side of heaven.

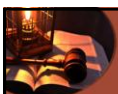
1 Corinthians 13:9 For we **know in part** and we prophesy in part.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I **know in part**, but then I shall know just as I also am known.



The Trial of our FAITH

3C. But, God has given us **sufficient** knowledge in His **Word** and **Revelation** from the Holy Spirit when we seek Him.




The Trial of our FAITH

4A. Sufficient knowledge from God's Word and revelation by the Holy Spirit will help to **purify** our faith.



The Trial of our FAITH


- 4B. It will help answer such questions:
- i. Why did this **accident** happen to me?
 - ii. Did **God** send the typhoon-tsunami to judge us?
 - iii. Did God give me **cancer** to punish me or to teach me godliness?
 - iv. Why did God **not** answer my prayer?
 - v. Why is it so **unfair** to me?
 - vi. **Why?** Why? Why?



The Trial of our **FAITH**

4C. Sufficient knowledge from God's Word require us to always base a principle or truth on the **entire weight** of Scriptures instead of some portion that seems to say otherwise.


Psalm 119:160
the entirety / sum of the scriptures is truth.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

4D. Understand that God will not allow a trial beyond our ability to overcome, does **not** mean God caused it.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV) No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will **not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able**, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.



1 Corinthians 10:13 (AMP)

For no temptation (no trial regarded as enticing to sin), [no matter how it comes or where it leads] has overtaken you and laid hold on you that is not common to man [that is, no temptation or trial has come to you that is beyond human resistance and that is not adjusted and adapted and belonging to human experience, and such as man can bear]. But God is faithful [to His Word and to His compassionate nature], and He [can be trusted] not to let you be tempted and tried and assayed beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure, but with the temptation He will [always] also provide the way out (the means of escape to a landing place), that you may be capable and strong and powerful to bear up under it patiently.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

5. Common trials that cause us grief and pain:

A. Natural **Calamities**

Earthquakes	Tornadoes	SARS	Fire	Flood
Extreme Heat	Extreme Cold	Tsunami	Changes in Weather Patterns	
Pollution in the Environment	Volcanic Eruptions	Drought	Typhoons	



The Trial of our **FAITH**

5. Common trials that cause us grief and pain:

B. **Sickness** and Diseases

Flu	Cancer	Depression	Kidney Failure
Tumor	Cysts in Organ	Heart Attack	Wounds
Gall Bladder mal-function	Liver Scarring		




The Trial of our **FAITH**

5. Common trials that cause us grief and pain:

C. **Financial** Difficulties


Economic Downturn	Retrenched from Job	Drought in Sales
Cash Flow Problems	Financially Tight	Being Cheated by a Client
Losing a Business Deal	Financial Losses	Investment Turning Sour
		Savings Running Out



The Trial of our FAITH


5. Common trials that cause us grief and pain:
D. **Relational** Conflicts

Separation	Divorce	Emotional Abuse	Quarrels	Hurts
Afflictions	Fights	Persecution	Being Bullied	War
Mis-understandings	Envy	Disappointments	Offenses	
Physical Abuse	Jealousy	Being Taken Advantage of		
Verbal Murder	Hatred	Arguments	Unforgiveness	



The Trial of our FAITH

5. Common trials that cause us grief and pain:
E. **Accidents** and Situations Beyond our Control




The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
A. Due to the **Fallen-ness of Man**.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and **fall short of the glory of God**.


John 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. **In the world you will have tribulation**; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
B. Due to our **own faults**.


1 Peter 2:20 For what credit is it if, when you are **beaten for your faults**, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God.



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
C. Due to the works of the **evil one**.

John 10:10a The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy ...



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
D. For **righteousness sake**.

1 Peter 3:14 But even if you should **suffer for righteousness' sake**, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled."



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
 D. For **righteousness sake**.

1 Peter 3:17 For it is better, if it is the **will of God**, to suffer for **doing good** than for doing evil.



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
 D. For **righteousness sake**.

1 Peter 4:14 If you are **reproached for the name of Christ**, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.



The Trial of our FAITH

6. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives:
 D. For **righteousness sake**.

2 Timothy 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to **live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution**.

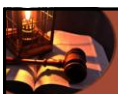


The Trial of our FAITH

All suffering by a believer is a trial of his **faith**.

- i. Suffering in a **fallen world** - **No** choice
- ii. Suffering due to our own "**faults**" - **Wrong** choice
- iii. Suffering for **righteousness sake** - **Right** choice

**God is NOT glorified in All our sufferings!
 Only for Christ and Righteousness sake!**



The Trial of our FAITH


7. The trial of the believer's faith may result in **2 broad outcomes**:
 A. Turning **away** from God in disappointment.



The Trial of our FAITH

7. The trial of the believer's faith may result in **2 broad outcomes**:
 B. Turning **to** God to seek His grace for the trial.
 The grace needed for the trial maybe:






The Trial of our **FAITH**

7. The trial of the believer's faith may result in **2 broad outcomes**:

B. Turning **to** God to seek His grace for the trial.

2 Corinthians 12:9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My **strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.




The Trial of our **FAITH**

7. The trial of the believer's faith may result in **2 broad outcomes**:

B. Turning **to** God to seek His grace for the trial.

Hebrews 12:2 (NIV) Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and **perfecter of our faith**, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.




The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.

A. He will develop strength in **perseverance**.

Romans 5:3 And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that **tribulation produces perseverance** ...




The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.

A. He will develop strength in **perseverance**.

James 1:3 knowing that the **testing of your faith produces patience - perseverance**.




The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial

B. He will develop the **character** of Christ.

- i. Faith focuses on **God**, not our problems.
- ii. Faith trust in God's **timing**, not our own.
- iii. Faith grows by **believing** God in spite of our circumstances.
- iv. Faith obeys God one **step** at a time.

Romans 5:4a and **perseverance, character** ...




The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.

C. He will have **hope**.


Romans 5:4b ... and **character, hope**.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.
 D. He will experience the deep assurance of the **love** of God.


Romans 5:5 Now hope does not disappoint, because the **love of God** has been **poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit** who was given to us.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.
 E. He will be **victorious** i.e. an **overcomer**.

James 1:4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be **perfect and complete, lacking nothing**.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.
 E. He will be **victorious** i.e. an **overcomer**.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.



The Trial of our **FAITH**

8. When the believer **connects** with God during the trial.
 F. He can now **minister** to others the Grace of God.

2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, **4** who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

CONCLUSION

Malachi 3:3 He will sit as **a refiner and a purifier of silver**; He will **purify the sons of Levi**, and **purge them as gold and silver**, that they may offer to the Lord an **offering in righteousness**.

