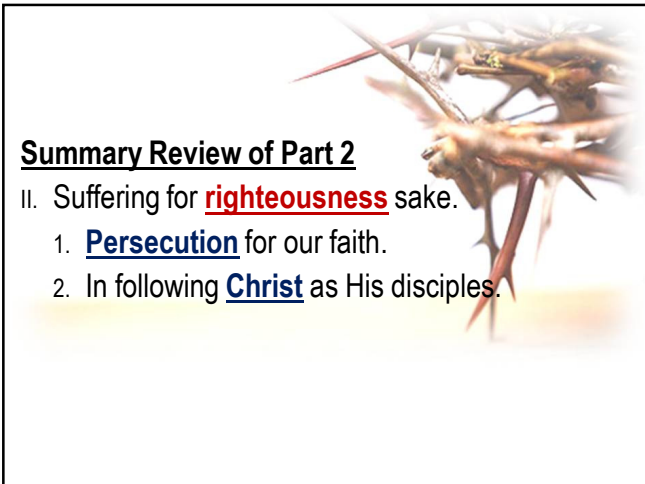




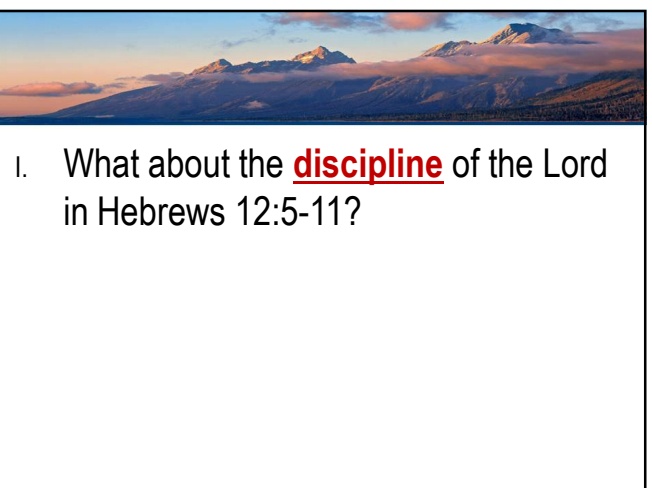
Summary Review of Part 2

- I. Suffering due to our own "**faults**".
 1. Our **sinful** nature - the **sin** in us.
 2. Our **sins** are:
 - A. The things we have done which are **wrong**.
 - B. The things we ought to do but **fail** to do so.



Summary Review of Part 2

- III. All Suffering by a believer is a trial of his **faith**.





Hebrews 12:5-11

5 And you have forgotten that **word of encouragement** that addresses you as sons: “My son, **do not make light** of the **Lord’s discipline**, and **do not lose heart** when he **rebukes** you, 6 because the Lord **disciplines** those he loves, and he **punishes** everyone he accepts as a son.” 7 **Endure hardship** as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? 8 If you are not disciplined (**and everyone undergoes discipline**), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons.



Hebrews 12:5-11

9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we **submit to the Father of our spirits and live!** 10 Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us **for our good**, that we may **share in his holiness**. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but **painful**. Later on, however, it produces a **harvest of righteousness and peace** for those who have been **trained** by it.



A. The discipline of the Lord is **training** and **teaching**.

1. It is **not** judgment nor punishment. It is to **disciple**.
2. It is to be understood in the context of the entire **NT**.
3. It is best seen in the Parable of the **Prodigal Son**.



A. The discipline of the Lord is **training** and **teaching**.

4. The question is not: “Does God discipline, but **how?**”
5. Our God is the **good** Father! Jesus is the **good** Shepherd!



B. The discipline of the Lord is **training** in **holiness**.


Hebrews 12:10

Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us **for our good**, that we may **share in his holiness**.




c. This training in holiness is our journey in **discipleship**.






1. In our journey to overcome the evil one.

Revelation 12:11
And they overcame him [evil one] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.



2. In our journey to overcome the world.


1 John 5:4-5
4For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. **5**Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?



3. In our journey to overcome our self-life.

Luke 9:23
Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.


Romans 8:29



D. The training in holiness in our journey in discipleship will involve:

1. Rebuke


2 Timothy 3:16
All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness



D. The training in holiness in our journey in discipleship will involve:

2. Emotional Pain 3. Physical Pain

1 Corinthians 5:4-5
4In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.



D. The training in holiness in our journey in discipleship will involve:

2. Emotional Pain 3. Physical Pain

1 Corinthians 11:29-32 (NIV)
29For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. **30**That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. **31**But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. **32**When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

D. The training in holiness in our journey in discipleship will involve:

2. **Emotional** Pain
3. **Physical** Pain

1 Timothy 1:19-20

19having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, **20**of whom are **Hymenaeus and Alexander**, whom I **delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme**.

E. The discipline of the Lord is through the **laws** and **principles** of life through people and circumstances.

The believer makes the choices and reap its **consequences** [good or bad - rebuke and pain] accordingly.

The believer makes the choices and reap its **consequences** [good or bad - rebuke and pain] accordingly.

Galatians 6:7-8

7Do not be deceived, **God is not mocked**; **for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap**. **8**For he who sows to his **flesh** will of the flesh **reap corruption**, but he who sows to the **Spirit** will of the Spirit **reap everlasting life**.

Examples of **Rebuke and Pain**



The believer makes the choices and reap its **consequences** [good or bad - rebuke and pain] accordingly.

1 Timothy 5:24

Some men's **sins** are clearly **evident**, preceding them to **judgment**, but those of some men **follow later**

The believer makes the choices and reap its **consequences** [good or bad - rebuke and pain] accordingly.

James 5:19-20

19Brethren, if anyone among you **wanders from the truth**, and **someone turns him back**, **20**let him know that he who turns a sinner from the **error of his way will save a soul from death** and **cover a multitude of sins**.



The believer makes the choices and reap its **consequences** [good or bad - rebuke and pain] accordingly.

1 John 5:16-17

16If anyone sees his brother sinning a **sin which does not lead to death**, he will ask, and He will **give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death**.

There is **sin leading to death**. I do not say that he should pray about that. **17**All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death.



F. We have a **choice** whether to submit and learn.

Hebrews 12:9

Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. **How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!**



G. Our journey in discipleship is our journey of **faith** [1 Peter 1:6-7].

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

This includes:

1. Suffering in a **fallen-world** - **No** choice
2. Suffering due to our own "**faults**" - **Wrong** choice
3. Suffering for **righteousness sake** - **Right** choice



H. As the believer submits to the discipline - training of the Holy Spirit [Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-4]:

1. He will develop strength in **perseverance**.
2. He will develop the **character** of Christ.
3. He will have **hope**.




H. As the believer submits to the discipline - training of the Holy Spirit [Romans 5:3-5; James 1:2-4]:

4. He will experience the deep assurance of the **love** of God.
5. He will be **victorious** i.e. an **overcomer**.
6. He can now **minister** to others the God's Grace.



I. What about the **discipline** of the Lord?


II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?



II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

2 Corinthians 12:7

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, **a thorn in the flesh** was given to me, **a messenger of Satan to buffet me**, lest I be exalted above measure.




II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

Scripture interpret Scripture. Thorns in the Bible.

Numbers 33:55

But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain shall be **irritants in your eyes** and **thorns in your sides**, and they shall **harass** you in the land where you dwell.




II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

Scripture interpret Scripture. Thorns in the Bible.

Judges 2:3

Therefore I also said, 'I will not drive them out before you; but **they** shall be **thorns in your side**, and **their gods shall be a snare to you.**'"



II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

Scripture interpret Scripture. Thorns in the Bible.

Joshua 23:13

know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out **these nations** from before you. But they shall be **snares and traps** to you, and **scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes**, until you perish from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.



II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

The **thorns** are **NOT** sickness

The **thorns** are:

Both human and demonic instruments to persecute, harass, oppress and intimidate Paul.


How do we know that?

Context!




2 Corinthians 11:23b-28


23 ... I speak as a fool—I am more: **in labors** more abundant, in **stripes** above measure, in **prisons** more frequently, in **deaths** often. **24** From the Jews five times I received forty **stripes** minus one. **25** Three times I was **beaten** with rods; once I was **stoned**; three times I was **shipwrecked**; a night and a day I have been **in the deep**;




2 Corinthians 11:23b-28
26in journeys often, in **perils of waters**, in **perils of robbers**, in **perils of my own countrymen**, in **perils of the Gentiles**, in **perils in the city**, in **perils in the wilderness**, in **perils in the sea**, in **perils among false brethren**; **27**in **weariness and toil**, in **sleeplessness often**, in **hunger and thirst**, in **fastings often**, in **cold and nakedness**— **28**besides the other things, what comes upon me **daily**: my deep concern for all the churches.




2 Corinthians 12:7-10
7And lest I should be exalted above measure by the **abundance of the revelations**, [2 Kings 6:2-12 - Elisha] **a thorn in the flesh** was given to me, **a messenger of Satan** to **buffet me**, lest I be exalted above measure.
8Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me.




2 Corinthians 12:7-10
9And 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.
10Therefore I take pleasure in **infirmities**, in **reproaches**, in **needs**, in **persecutions**, in **distresses**, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.




- I. What about the **discipline** of the Lord?
- II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?
- III. What about the man **born** blind?




John 9:1-4
1Now as Jesus passed by, He saw **a man who was blind from birth**. **2**And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" **3**Jesus answered, "**Neither** this man nor his parents sinned, **but that the works of God should be revealed in him**. **4**I must **work the works of Him who sent Me** while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.



- III. What about the man **born** blind?




Wrong Interpretation:
*God **caused – allowed – permitted** the man to be born blind for Him to do His works of healing the blind man.*



iii. What about the man **born** blind?

Contrast **John 5:14** where the invalid's condition was due to his **own personal sins**.


John 5:14
Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. **Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.**"



iii. What about the man **born** blind?


John 9:3-4
3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, **but that the works of God should be revealed in him.** 4 I must work **the works of Him who sent Me** while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

1 John 3:8 Acts 10:38




iii. What about the man **born** blind?

Correct Interpretation:
The man born blind - probably due to the **genetics** of his parents and/or his forefathers [**Fallen-ness** of Man].




Correct Interpretation:
The man born blind - probably due to the **genetics** of his parents and/or his forefathers [**Fallen-ness** of Man]:

- Already** born blind.
- Came into **divine** appointment with the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The **works** of God [**healing**] was done by the Lord Jesus.




Correct Interpretation:
The man born blind - probably due to the **genetics** of his parents and/or his forefathers [**Fallen-ness** of Man]:

- Today's context: **We** represent the Lord Jesus Christ to do the works of God.
- God is already **present!** We make Him **visible!**



iii. What about the man **born** blind?

John 14:12
Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also;** and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.




Application: What if you are still **not** healed?

A. **No** condemnation - reject all the accusations and lies such as:

e.g. 1 - **you still have sins**

e.g. 2 - **you have no faith, etc**

B. Seek all the **medical** help available.




Application: What if you are still **not** healed?

c. Keep on seeking **God** for healing/answer ("3 times").

Even after due season ("3 times"), just surrender and live totally on the Grace of God as Paul did.

2 Corinthians 12:9a - **My grace is sufficient for you,** for my strength is made perfect in weakness.




I. What about the **discipline** of the Lord?

II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

III. What about the man **born** blind?

IV. What about Timothy and his **physical** weakness?




IV. What about Timothy and his **physical** weakness?

1 Timothy 5:23

No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your **stomach's sake** and your **frequent infirmities**.

Our bodies are **corrupt** and **mortal** and need constant **care** and **nourishment**.




I. What about the **discipline** of the Lord?

II. What about Paul's **thorn** in the flesh?

III. What about the man **born** blind?

IV. What about Timothy and his **physical** weakness?


V. What about Epaphroditus?



Philippians 2:25-30


25Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; **26**since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was **sick**. **27**For indeed he was **sick almost unto death**; **But God had mercy on him**, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

[at time of writing, he was healed!]




Philippians 2:25-30
28Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. **29**Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; **30**because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Consequence of **BURNOUT!**
 Physical breakdown due to failure to take care / have proper rest.




- I. What about the discipline of the Lord?
- II. What about Paul's thorn in the flesh?
- III. What about the man born blind?
- IV. What about Timothy and his physical weakness?
- V. What about Epaphroditus?
- VI. What about Trophimus?




VI. What about Trophimus?

2 Timothy 4:19-21
19Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. **20**Erastus stayed in Corinth, but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick. **21**Do your utmost to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, as well as Pudens, Linus, Claudia, and all the brethren.

Acts 20:4 - Travelled with Paul on his missionary journeys.
Acts 21:29 - An Ephesian, with Paul who was beaten in riot.




- I. What about the discipline of the Lord?
- II. What about Paul's thorn in the flesh?
- III. What about the man born blind?
- IV. What about Timothy and his physical weakness?
- V. What about Epaphroditus?
- VI. What about Trophimus?
- VII. How about Job?



VII. How about Job?

A. Why did he suffer Satan's attacks?
 There were possibly grounds that removed God's protective hedge.

Job 3:25
 For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, and what I dreaded has happened to me.



VII. How about Job?

A. Why did he suffer Satan's attacks?
 There were possibly grounds that removed God's protective hedge.

Job 1:5
 ... Job would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts ...

B. Can what happened to Job happen to me today?

NO!



1. **Prior to** Christ's Death and Resurrection, Satan **had access** to God's Throne.

Zechariah 3:1

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to **oppose-accuse** him [NKJ-NIV].

The last recorded incident where Satan had access to God to ask permission to accuse / seek harm on God's people.

Luke 22:31-32

31 And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, **Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.**

32 But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."

2. Calvary - the Death and Resurrection of Christ **forever** changed the **standing** of Satan in relation to God and the believer.

Luke 10:18

And He said to them, "I saw **Satan fall like lightning from heaven.**

John 12:31

Now is the judgment of this world; now the **ruler of this world will be cast out.**

2. Calvary - the Death and Resurrection of Christ **forever** changed the **standing** of Satan in relation to God and the believer.

Revelation 12:10

Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, "Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for **the accuser of our brethren**, who accused them before our God day and night, **has been cast down** [fallen].

3. The **promise** of God to every believer.

1 Corinthians 10:13

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**.



4. The position of the believer and authority to resist the evil one.

Luke 10:19

Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.



4. The position of the believer and authority to resist the evil one.

James 4:7

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

Resist all

his lies, deception, accusations, condemnation, etc



4. The position of the believer and authority to resist the evil one.

1 Peter 5:8-9

8Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

9Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.



4. The position of the believer and authority to resist the evil one.

Ephesians 1:22-23

22And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, **23**which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.



4. The position of the believer and authority to resist the evil one.

Romans 16:20


And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.



Bottom Line: Promises of God for the believer.


2 Corinthians 2:14

Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.



Bottom Line: Promises of God for the believer.


John 16:33b
 in the world, you will have **trouble - trials - tribulations** ...
 but **in ME**, you will have **PEACE!**



Bottom Line: Promises of God for the believer.

Romans 15:13
 May the **God of hope** fill you with **all joy** and **peace** as
 you **trust** in him, so that you **may overflow with hope**
 by the **power of the Holy Spirit.**

Romans 8:32



Bottom Line: Promises of God for the believer.

Luke 11:11-13
11If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will
 he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give
 him a serpent instead of a fish? **12**Or if he asks for an egg,
 will he offer him a scorpion? **13****If you then, being evil,**
know how to give good gifts to your children, how
much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy
Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Hebrews 11:6