

AFFLICTIONS; TRIALS; SUFFERING –

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1 PETER 5:9

A. WHAT IT ACCOMPLISHES

1. **A CHASTENING FOR SIN** – *Genesis 3:16-19; 2 Nephi 1:60; 1 Peter 4:17; Alma 1:118-120*
- ❖ **NOT ALWAYS A CONSEQUENCE OF SIN** – *John 9:1-3*
2. **AFFLICTION STRENGTHENS OUR FAITH, FOR HIS GLORY** - *1Peter 1:6-7; 2Nephi 1:60-61.*
3. **HELPS US DEVELOPS PATIENCE** – *Romans 5:3; Romans 12:12; Hebrews 10:36; James 1:2-4; Alma 12:218; Alma 12:19.*
4. **PRODUCES FRUITS OF JOY** - *Psalms 30:5; Psalms 126:5-6.*
5. **BRINGS ABOUT MATURITY** - *Ecclesiastes 7:3; 1 Peter 5:10.*
6. **PURIFIES/REFINES OUR LIVES** - *Isaiah 1:25; Isaiah 48:10; 1 Peter 1:7; 1 Nephi 6:17; 2 Nephi 7:10-12*
7. **BRINGS ABOUT RIGHTEOUSNESS** - *Hebrews 12:11.*
8. **BRINGS US TO REPENTANCE** - *Revelation 3:19-20; Mosiah 11:190-191; Mosiah 7:37; Mosiah 7:44-55.*
9. **CAUSES US TO REMEMBER GOD** - *2 Corinthians 12:10; Mosiah 1:26; Alma 14:64; Alma 25:58; Alma 29:60; Helaman 4:52*
10. **HUMBLES US** - *Alma 16:134-138; Alma 29:51; 3 Nephi 3:14; Ether 5:28*
11. **BRINGS US TO GOD** - *2 Corinthians 12:10; Mosiah 5:38-41; Mosiah 7:44-55; Alma 29:48-51;*
12. **COUNCILS US UNTO COMPASSION FOR OTHERS** - *Romans 12:15; Galatians 6:2; 2 Corinthians 1:3-6*
13. **MAKES US MORE CHRIST LIKE** - *Hebrews 12:9-10; 1 Peter 4:12-14; Philippians 3:10; 2 Corinthians 4:7-10*
14. **MAKES US DEPEND ON GOD'S GRACE** - *2 Corinthians 12:7-9.*
15. **MAKE US EXAMPLES** - *2 Corinthians 6:4-5; 1 Pet 2:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7; Alma 12:19*
16. **LETS US WITNESS** – *Acts 8:1-5; Acts 16:25-34; Philippians 1:12-15; 2 Timothy 4:6-17*
17. **STRENGTHENS US FOR A GOD'S WORK** – *2 Corinthians 12:10; John 12:24; Alma 12:19; Alma 14:115; Alma 16:111-119; Mosiah 11:10*
18. **PREPARES US FOR THE KINGDOM** – *2Thessalonians;1:5; 2Timothy 2:12*
19. **SHOWS GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY** – *Genesis. 45:5-8; Genesis. 50:20; Romans. 8:28; 1 Corinthians 10:13*
20. **PROVIDES A REWARD** – *Matthew. 5:10-12; Matthew 19:27-29; Romans 8:16-17; 2 Corinthians 4:17; Ecclesiastes 7:1*

B. A PROPER RESPONSE TO AFFLICTION, TRIAL AND SUFFERING

1. **Christians not immune**
 - a. *Mathew 5:45. maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.*
2. **Expect them**

- a. John 15:1-20. *If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.*
 - b. 2 Timothy 3:12. *all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*
 - c. 1 Thessalonians 3:1-3. *we told you before that we should suffer tribulation.*
 - d. Mosiah 11:148. *Alma and his fellow laborers do...walking in all diligence, suffering all manner of afflictions; being persecuted*
- 3. Rejoice in them**
- a. 2 Corinthians 12:8-10. *my strength is made perfect in weakness...glory in my infirmities...pleasure in infirmities, reproaches, necessities, persecutions,.*
 - b. Romans. 5:3. *glory in tribulations*
 - c. Acts 5:40-41. *rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.*
 - d. Acts 16:25. *Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God*
 - e. Philippians 4:4. *Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice*
- 4. We may not understand all things**
- a. Romans 11:33-36 *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord?*
 - b. Mosiah 2:15. *man doth not comprehend all things which the Lord can comprehend.*
 - c. Mormon 4:77. *Behold, are not the things that God hath wrought marvelous in our eyes? Yea, and who can comprehend the marvelous works of God?*
- 5. Realize others suffer also**
- a. 1 Corinthians 10:13. *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man*
 - b. 1 Peter 5:8-9. *same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.*
 - c. Mosiah 1:41. *like as yourselves, subject to all manner of infirmities in body and mind;*
- 6. Trust God will never give you more than you can bear.**
- a. 1 Corinthians 10:13. *will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able.*
- 7. Pray while suffering**
- a. James 5:13-16. *Is any among you afflicted? let him pray... fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much*
 - b. Mark 9:20-24. *If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth*
 - c. Jacob 2:49. *pray unto him with exceeding faith, and he will console you in your afflictions,*
- 8. Call for the Elders**
- a. James 5:14 *Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:*
- 9. Don't despise it**
- a. Hebrews 12:5. *My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord,*
- 10. Don't give up**
- a. Proverbs 24:10. *If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.*
 - b. Hebrews 12:5. *despise not the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when rebuked*
- 11. Patiently endure**
- a. Romans 12:12. *Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer*
 - b. 2 Timothy 2:3. *endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*
 - c. James 5:10-11. *the prophets an example of suffering affliction, and of patience Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job*
 - d. 1 Peter 2:20. *ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently*
- 12. Give thanks to God for it**
- a. Psalms 42:5. *Why art thou cast down...and why art thou disquieted...hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.*
 - b. 1 Thessalonians 5:18. *In everything give thanks: for this is the will of*
 - c. 1 Nephi 5:199. *I did look unto my God, and I did praise him all the day long*
- 13. Glorify God for them**
- a. 1 Peter 4:16 *Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.*
- 14. Don't become a self made martyr**
- a. Hebrews 12:12-13. *lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way.*

b. 1 Nephi 5:199. *I did not murmur against the Lord because of mine afflictions.*

15. Weigh it against the coming glory

a. John 16:20-21. *your sorrow shall be turned into joy*

b. Romans 8:18. *the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

c. Alma 19:44. *those who are righteous, are received into a state of happiness... where they shall rest from all their troubles, and from all care, and sorrow*

d. 3 Nephi 5:59. *great shall be your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you.*