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BENEFITS (BLESSINGS) IN TRIALS

INTRODUCTION

Living, and Christian living, too, has its trials, hardships, and frustrations.

These verses reveal a partial list of what to expect: (Matt. 5:10-12; 1 Peter 4:16; John 15:18-19; 1 Cor. 4:11-14; 2 Cor. 1:3-4; 2 Cor. 4:8-10, v17; 2 Cor. 6:3-5; Phil. 1:29; 1 Thess. 3:3-4; 2 Thess. 1:4; 2 Tim. 3:12; James 1:2-3; 1 Peter 4:4; Rev. 6:9)

WHAT'S THE PROFIT IN SPIRITUAL STRUGGLES AND DAILY DISCIPLINE?

1. (Job 23:10) "... when he has tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

(1 Peter 5:10) "... after that ye have suffered a little while ... strengthen you"
(Job 42:12) "So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than the beginning"

2. (Psalm 119:71) "It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes"

(Heb. 12:10-11) "... for our profit ... afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby"
(v7) "... God deals with us as sons ..." - as parents educating children; teachers to students. Many of nature's laws are learned through suffering.

3. (Rms. 8:17) "... and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be glorified with him"

This benefit looks past the immediate reward, looks toward the end, an eternal view.
(1 Peter 1:7) "That the trial of your faith ... at the appearing of Jesus"
(2 Tim. 1:12) "for which cause I suffer ... that day"
(Rev. 2:10) "... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life"

4. (Rms. 5:3) "we rejoice in our tribulations: knowing that tribulation works patience"
(1 Peter 2:20 and James 1:2-3)

5. (1 Peter 4:12) "think it not strange concerning the fiery trial among you, ... to prove you"
(Ex. 16:4; Ex. 20:20; Deut. 8:2, v16)

6. Our trials help us to be sympathetic toward others in their trials. (2 Cor. 1:3-4)

7. When we overcome our trials, it gives us confidence that we can overcome future trials.

8. Having overcome our trials, we become examples to others to overcome their trials.

9. Trials of life cause us not to be satisfied with this world. (Phil. 1:23-24)