



Adversity, Risk and the Sanctity of Life

1/28/24

In adversity we need...

1. peace with God

Romans 5:1 Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

⁶ For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

2. to pray and trust

James 5:13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises.

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? 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;

¹⁵ and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.

¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

3. a biblical world view with a focus on the sovereignty of God

Romans 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

²³ this *Man*, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.

²⁴ "And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

4. an eternal perspective

Romans 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

5. community

Philippians 1:27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

²⁸ in no way alarmed by *your* opponents-- which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that *too*, from God.

²⁹ For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

³⁰ experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

6. to embrace God's design and call to sacrificial living and risk

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

²⁵ "For whoever wishes to save his life shall lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake shall find it.

Acts 20:24 ...I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, in order that I may finish my course, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

2 Corinthians 1:6 ...if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;

7. to put away c _____

John 21:18 "Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself, and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go."

¹⁹ Now this He said, signifying by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me!"

²⁰ Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following *them*; the one who also had leaned back on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?"

²¹ Peter therefore seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?"

²² Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what *is that* to you? You follow Me!"

8. To take a moral inventory without assuming g _____

John 9:1 And as He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.

² And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind?"

³ Jesus answered, "*It was* neither *that* this man sinned, nor his parents; but *it was* in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.

2 Corinthians 12:7 And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me-- to keep me from exalting myself!

9. To anticipate Romans 8:28-31 on a c _____ and long-term level

Romans 8:26 ...the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words;

²⁷ and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of* God.

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to *become* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first-born among many brethren;

³⁰ and whom He predestined, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us?

10. to w_____

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always;

¹⁷ pray without ceasing;

¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 6:4 ...in everything commending ourselves as servants of God, in much endurance, in afflictions, in hardships, in distresses...

...⁹...as dying yet behold, we live; as punished yet not put to death,

¹⁰ as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing yet possessing all things.

Philippians 2:17 ...even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.

¹⁸ And you too, *I urge you*, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

¹³ but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

Hebrews 13:15 ...let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

All scripture is from the NASV