

Think It Not Strange Concerning the Fiery Trial

by A.B. Simpson

The presence of God in our lives is often revealed in the midst of challenges and temptations.

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:12

Topics: "Faith in Adversity", "Trials and Temptations"

Description

A.B. Simpson emphasizes that after taking a step of faith, believers often expect a smooth journey, but instead, they may encounter trials and temptations. He explains that these challenges are a sign of God's presence and blessings, as the adversary will challenge what is real and valuable. Simpson encourages believers to anticipate difficulties and understand that temptation is not sin, but rather a tactic used by the enemy to create doubt. By recognizing this, believers can remain steadfast in their faith despite internal struggles. Ultimately, the sermon reassures that facing trials is part of the Christian experience and can lead to deeper reliance on God.

Transcript

Most persons after a step of faith are looking for sunny skies and unruffled seas, and when they meet a storm and tempest they are filled with astonishment and perplexity. But this is just what we must expect to meet if we have received anything of the Lord. The best token of His presence is the adversary's defiance. The more real our blessing, the more certainly it will be challenged. It is a good thing to go out looking for the worst, and if it comes we are not surprised. To the contrary, if our path is smooth and our way unopposed, it is all the more delightful because it comes unexpectedly.

But let us quite understand what we mean by temptation.

If you have stepped out with the assurance that you have died to self and sin, you may be greatly amazed to find yourself assailed with a tempest of thoughts and feelings that seem to come wholly from within, and you will be impelled to say, "Why, I thought I was dead, but I seem to be alive." This, beloved, is the time to remember that temptation itself is not sin, it is a tactic of the evil one.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/ab-simpson/think-it-not-strange-concerning-the-fiery-trial/>

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