

# We Glory in Tribulation Also (Tribulation Builds Faith. Follow the Lamb Through to His salvation.)

by Hans R. Waldvogel

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*The sermon teaches that tribulation is a vital part of the Christian journey that builds faith and leads to spiritual victory through Jesus Christ.*

**Scripture:** Romans 5:3

**Topics:** "Faith in Trials", "Following Jesus"

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## Description

Hans R. Waldvogel emphasizes the necessity of embracing tribulation as a means to build faith and experience God's love. He explains that tribulations refine us, teaching patience and hope, and ultimately leading us to follow the Lamb, Jesus Christ, through our trials. Waldvogel encourages believers to remain steadfast in prayer and to fight against the temptations of the world, flesh, and the devil, asserting that true victory comes through enduring hardships. He reminds the congregation that God has chosen us in the furnace of affliction, and through these challenges, we can find our way to salvation. The sermon calls for a commitment to faith, urging listeners to choose Jesus over worldly comforts.

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## Transcript

Selected Verses:

Romans 5:3-5. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; 4And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Luke 18:1. And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

Isaiah 48:10. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

Revelation 14:4. These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Opening:

Now let's see how many are familiar with that scripture: "We glory in tribulations." Well, if you don't, I'll tell you where it is, and maybe I will read it to you. It is here: "Therefore, being justified by faith..." It's Romans 5. "...we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of the God." Now, I suppose that we all rejoice in hope of the glory of God. You can hear that in the songs: "When I get to heaven, gonna put on shoes, gonna run around glory and get all the news." If you never had any shoes, you might have shoes there, praise the Lord.

I saw--I heard--a choir, the Hall Johnson Choir, a colored choir, all ladies, and it was during the time when the skirts were short. They cut them off three times, and they were still too short--above their knees. And they were singing, "When you get to heaven, what're you gonna wear? Long white robe." I thought, "Well, you better wear it now!"

We "glory in hope," praise the Lord! Oh, what glory shall be "revealed in us"! And, you know, the Bible has much to say about hope, and not being "moved away from the hope of the gospel." It was that hope that made Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to be friends of Almighty God, because they forsook the world, and they "confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims upon the earth."

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#### Selected Quotes:

It is tribulation that gives faith a chance to prove itself, and gives Jesus Christ the chance to submit for your flesh His Spirit--to dispossess your flesh and to give you His Spirit. The Bible says here that, "It works experience." That's where we experience Jesus Christ, hallelujah!

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Don't think that you're going to go to heaven on "flowery beds of ease." That is not God's way--has never been God's way. He says, "All things work together for good to them that love God--to them that are called according to His purpose." And there it is: "they're called, and they're chosen, and they're faithful." And I would like to inspire the young people in this place to "put on the whole armor of God," and to make sure that they keep this goal before them--that they keep before them "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

The world will not help you; they'll drag you down. The devil won't help you; he'll defeat you. Your own flesh won't help you; it'll defeat you. And backslidden Pentecostal people won't help you either. They'll lie to you; they'll defeat you; they'll drag you away from the prayer closet, and they'll say, "Don't take it so hard." That's what people have said here. They've come back here from their revival meetings and said, "You see! You don't have to be so strict as Bro. Waldvogel teaches." No, you don't have to. You can go after the devil if you want to! But you can also "follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth," and "not love your life unto death." And you'll find out that it's in the tribulation, in the testings, in the trials where your faith is tested.

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We always have our altar services after meeting. And I'm sorry that so many have never caught the vision of the necessity of getting to God and waiting upon the Lord.

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Don't fool yourself; there are real devils, and there are real enemies. And some of you they don't bother at all because you don't fight. You don't fight! You don't care to fight; you don't care to make the grade; you don't care for Jesus; you don't care for the crown; you don't care for His word. God has never been able to plunge that "sword of the Spirit" into your solar plexus and make you writhe under it and cry, "Woe is me! I'm undone! My God, who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" But if you do, you'll find that God is there to give you the victory.

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God isn't fooling with you. He didn't put you into this world to feed the undertaker, or his pocketbook, and to feed the worms. He put you here that He might save you, that He might redeem you with His blood, and that He might work within you "that which is well-pleasing in His sight," "to the glory and praise of God." And you've got to make your choice. You've got to make up your mind whether you're going to have Jesus or the flesh.

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speaker icon O God, I pray Thee, don't let me run away. People have said to me, "Run away! Why do you take it? We didn't take it; don't you take it." I said, "If I run away, I take myself with me--I take my defeat with me. No. My God has put me into this crucible." "I have chosen you in the furnace of affliction." We have a wonderful opportunity to "follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth" by "glorying in tribulation also," because "God will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able, but He will with the temptation make a way of escape so that ye shall be able to bear it."

Do you know that way of escape is Jesus Christ? That's what the tribulation is for. You've been trusting in yourself, and Paul says, "We had the sentence of death in ourselves that we should learn not to trust in ourselves but in the Living God who raiseth the dead."

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Illustrations:

A Baptist preacher who trusted a medical book rather than the Bible. "When he got sick, he said to me, '...I didn't know how sick I was until I saw the description of my sickness.'" (from 7:15)

A personal testimony of victory over the self life. "God gave a message through one of His prophets. He says, 'When you take up a prayer, and take up a fight, fight it through. Don't quit until you've got the victory.'" (from 14:49)

The story of gathering kindling in the spooky woods as a child. (from 17:30)

HRW's faltering start in the life of faith. "If God makes it easy for you, you'll never learn your lesson; you'll never learn to know your God... A missionary had told me that. They said, 'When we started in this life, we had a hard time, but we had God with us. Today,' they said, 'our needs are supplied and we haven't got God with us anymore. We're defeated!'" (from 22:33)

References:

Am I a Soldier of the Cross?, a hymn by Isaac Watts, 1721:

Am I a soldier of the cross,

A follower of the Lamb,

And shall I fear to own His cause,

Or blush to speak His Name?

Must I be carried to the skies

On flowery beds of ease,

While others fought to win the prize,

And sailed through bloody seas?

I Would Be True, a hymn by Howard A. Walter, 1906:

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;

I would be pure, for there are those who care;

I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;

I would be brave, for there is much to dare;

I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

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