

# Fetch Out the Dirt and Spots

by Thomas Brooks

---

*The sermon explores how God uses trials to purify believers and foster spiritual growth for His glory and their benefit.*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 1:25, Hebrews 12:10, James 1:2

**Topics:** "Trials and Growth", "God's Discipline"

---

## Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes that God uses severe providences and fiery trials to purify His people and promote their growth in grace. He illustrates that just as a candle shines brighter when trimmed, believers often flourish spiritually during times of affliction. Brooks reassures that while trials may seem harmful, they ultimately serve to deepen our relationship with God and enhance our holiness. He encourages Christians to embrace their struggles, recognizing that they can lead to greater humility, compassion, and faithfulness. The sermon concludes with the promise that God disciplines us for our good, allowing us to share in His holiness.

---

## Transcript

"I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly

purge away your dross and remove all your

impurities." Isaiah 1:25

By severe providences and by fiery trials, God designs

the growth of His people in grace. Usually the graces of

the saints thrive best--when they are under a smarting

rod. Grace usually is in the greatest flourish--when the

saints are under the greatest trials. The trimming of the

candle--makes it burn the brighter. God bruises His

spices--to make them send forth the sweeter fragrance.

Fiery trials are like the brush, which, though it is sharp and scratching--it makes the cloth more pure and clean.

God would not rub so hard, were it not to fetch out the dirt and spots which are in His people.

Stars shine brightest in the darkest nights; and so do the graces of the saints shine brightest in the darkest nights of affliction and tribulation. God will sometimes more carry on the growth of grace by a cross than by a mercy. Yes, the Lord will, sooner or later, more or less--turn all fiery trials into blessings for the helping on the growth of grace in His people's souls. Though fiery trials are grievous--yet they shall make us more gracious. Though for the present they appear to harm and damage us; yet in the outcome we shall find that God will turn them into the spiritual and eternal advantage of our precious souls.

Thrice happy will afflicted Christians be, if under all their crosses and losses they grow into a more deep acquaintance with God and His holiness; with the vanity, mutability, impotency, and uncertainty of the world; and with the deceitfulness, vileness, baseness, and wretchedness of their own hearts!

If under fiery dispensations, we grow . . .

more holy than ever,

more humble than ever,

more heavenly than ever,

more meek and lowly than ever,

more tender and compassionate than ever,  
more faithful and fruitful than ever,  
more patient and contented than ever,  
then we may be confident that the grand design  
of God in bringing all those fiery trials upon us, was  
for His glory, and our own spiritual and eternal good.  
"God disciplines us for our good, that we may  
share in His holiness." Hebrews 12:10

---

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/thomas-brooks/fetch-out-the-dirt-and-spots/>

# *Grow in Your Walk with Christ*

---

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

**[www.sermonindex.net](http://www.sermonindex.net)**