

God Would Not Rub So Hard

by Thomas Brooks

God uses afflictions to purify and cleanse us, removing the dross and impurities from our hearts.

Scripture: Psalm 66:10, Proverbs 17:3, Isaiah 1:25, Malachi 3:2-3, Romans 5:3-5, 1 Corinthians 3:13, 2 Corinthians 4:17, Hebrews 12:6, James 1:2-4, 1 Peter 1:7

Topics: "Afflictions", "Spiritual Purification"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes that God uses afflictions as a means to cleanse and purify His people, comparing them to fire that burns away impurities and dross. He illustrates that just as fire freed the three champions from their cords, afflictions can liberate Christians from their vanities and sins. Brooks explains that these trials serve various purposes, such as purging, washing, and refining, ultimately leading to a more radiant faith. He reassures that God's intense discipline is a sign of His love and desire for purity in our hearts.

Transcript

"I will turn My hand against you and will burn away your dross completely; I will remove all your impurities."

Isaiah 1:25

Afflictions cleanse and purge away the dross, the filth, and the scum of the Christian.

All the harm the fire did to the three children, or rather the three champions--was to burn off their cords. Our lusts are cords of vanity, but the fire of affliction shall burn them up. Sharp afflictions are a fire--to purge out our dross, and to make our graces shine; they are a potion--to carry away ill humours; they are cold frosts

--to destroy the vermin; they are a tempestuous sea--
to purge the wine from its dregs; they are a sharp
corrosive--to eat out the dead flesh.

Afflictions are compared to washing--which takes away
the filth of the soul, as water does the filth of the body.

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

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/thomas-brooks/god-would-not-rub-so-hard/>

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