

TRIALS AND THE GLORY OF GOD

Job 1:20-22

God can use trials to bring glory to Himself

I. AFFLICTION as a doorway to God's glory

- A. GOD'S PLAN - Psalm 50:15
 - 1. A Prayer: Call upon Me in the day of trouble
 - 2. A Promise: I will rescue you
 - 3. A Prescription: You will honor Me

- B. GOD'S PROMISE - James 1:12
 - 1. The persevering are blessed
 - 2. The approved are rewarded

II. SICKNESS as a doorway to God's glory

- A. BEING PARALYZED - Matthew 9:2-8
 - 1. The Scribe's musing (2-5)
 - 2. Jesus' miracle (6-7)
 - 3. The Crowds marvel (8)

- B. BEING DISABLED - Matthew 15:30-31
 - 1. Jesus healed those with a multitude of disabling conditions (30)
 - 2. The people marveled and glorified God (31)

- C. BEING BLIND - John 9:1-3, 29-33
 - 1. The disciple's question (1-2)
 - 2. Jesus' answer (3)
 - 3. The seeing man's testimony (29-33)

- D. BEING TERMINAL - John 11:1-4, 45
 - 1. Jesus was informed of Lazarus' serious illness (1-3)
 - 2. Jesus' conclusion about that illness (4)
 - 3. Jesus was believed on by many! (45)

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III. **PERSECUTION** as a doorway to God's glory

A. THE EARLY CHURCH - Acts 4:23-31

1. The Report (23)
2. Their Response (24-31)
 - a. Praise (24-25)
 - b. Perspective (26-28)
 - c. Prayer (29-30)
 - d. Power (31)

B. THE SCATTERED CHURCH - I Peter 4:15-16

1. Warning: Don't suffer for these ... (15)
2. Witness: Do suffer like this ... (16)

IV. **DEATH** as a doorway to God's glory

A. JOB'S REACTION - Job 1:20-22

1. He Grieved (20a)
2. He Worshipped (20b-21)
3. He Glorified God (22)

B. DAVID'S RESPONSE - II Samuel 12:15-21

1. Prayer (15-17)
2. Recognition (18-19)
3. Worship (20)
4. Confession (21-23)

C. STEPHEN'S REALITY - Acts 7:55-56

1. Seeing God's glory (55)
2. Seeing Jesus standing (56)

D. PAUL'S RECOGNITION - II Corinthians 5:6-8

1. What we know (6-7)
2. What we prefer (8)

CONCLUSION:

No matter what's behind the next door, let us determine to glorify God

- Glorifying Him in happiness
- Glorifying Him through hardship

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