WHAT CAN GET IN OUR WAY?

(ROM 8:35–39)

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APPLICATION

IN OUR QUEST TO STAY THE COURSE TOWARD OUR EVENTUAL ULTIMATE I.E. THE CROWN OF LIFE, WE SHOULD EXPECT THE ENEMY WHO COMES TO US THROUGH MANY DIVERSE BITTER EXPERIENCES.
1. THE TOOLS OF THE DEVIL

- TRIBULATION
- DISTRESS
- PERSECUTION
- SWORD

- famine
- nakedness
- peril
2. SERMON OBJECTIVE

• ENCOURAGE
• REVIVE OUR FAITH
• STRENGTHEN OUR BELIEVE IN GOD
3. GOD ‘S CREATION

- Poor Deut 15:11 1 Samuel 2:7
- Rich
- Dark
- Fair
- Beautiful

- Short in height
- Tall in height
- Blue eyes
- Brown eyes
3. GOD ‘S CREATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOT SO BEAUTIFUL</th>
<th>Blind</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAME</td>
<td>Prevents</td>
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<td>BLIND</td>
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<td>STRONG</td>
<td>CREATED TO BEAUTIFY CREATION</td>
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4. COUNT IT ALL JOY

- **James 1:2**
- **Rejoice in the Lord**
- **Phil 3:1**
- **Humans response naturally to trials**

- Not to rejoice as humans
- Make a conscious effort/commitment to face them with joy
- Trials connote trouble
- That which breaks the pattern of peace, comfort, joy, and happiness
5. PURPOSE OF TEST

• PROVE AND INCREASE, STRENGTH, AND QUALITY OF ONE’S FAITH, AND DEMONSTRATE ITS VITALITY

• EVERY TRIAL BECOMES A TEST BY WRONGLY RESPONDING
6. PAUL’S ATTITUDE TO TRIALS (2 COR. 12:7-10)

• THE APOSTLE PAUL HAD PLEADED THRICE
• YET GOD SAID MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT
• ”I WILL RATHER BOAST IN INFIRMITIES”
• ”I take pleasure in needs, in persecution, in distress for Christ sake.”
• ”for when I am week then I’m strong” that’s quite paradoxical? Isn’t (a statement that seems to say two opposite things but that may be true)
7. Unlike Job’s wife response, “Curse God and die”. Job 2:9-10

- Job’s response
- “Shall we accept good from God”? 
- “And shall we not accept adversity”?

- In all these things, Job did not sin
- CAUTION
- We like Job’s wife will renounce our faith. Seek answers from necromancers, astrologers, fast track prophets, “ko entem bra entem prophets” “bring egg, coconut etc
8. JOB’S FRIENDS

- They sat with him for seven days and nights
- They said nothing to him
- They tore their garments

- But at the end Job refers to them as miserable friends/sympathizers because they sounded sanctimonious and claimed Job had sinned
- Job’s conclusion summed up everything, their visit was not beneficial.
CONCLUSION

Are we going to be strengthened in faith, instead of....

• Speaking like Job’s wife or friends
• Will you denounce your faith
• Replace your murmuring with prayer
CONCLUSION

• **James 5:13** Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms

• **Eph.6:18**

• **Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. Amen**
CONCLUSION

• **Let us remember what Paul said**

• **Rom 8:28**

• **And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.**
TO THE VISITOR

YOU ARE NOT BY ACCIDENT