



~ A Time of Sorrow and a Time of Hope ~

“In the whole land,” declares the LORD, “two-thirds will be struck down and perish; yet one-third will be left in it. This third I will bring into the fire; I will refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, ‘They are my people,’ and they will say, ‘The LORD is our God.’” – Zechariah 13:8-9

In today’s view of all the disasters and wars going on, one can get discouraged and wonder how we will stand through it all. This scripture offers hope that there is a purpose and an end to these times of sorrow.

The Lord has given us warning of what to expect before his soon coming. In response to the disciples of when the end of the world comes, the Lord is recorded by Matthew (Matthew 24) as listing the events that would happen just before he would come. Apparently, the sorrows and trials would become more severe and more frequent as His coming drew closer.

But, through the warning, He gave much hope. He reminded us that our trials were not in vain. Unfortunately, our character seems to grow the most through pain and trial. Pain is a great teacher – hence the words “refine them like silver, test them like gold”. Our characters are molded and refined as we learn to trust on Jesus for our every need and our every desire. We learn the true love of God for us and develop a true friendship with Jesus that moves us into His will and timing.

But the most beautiful promise is His presence with us through every trial. He has promised that we will face trial, but that we will also pass through it. When we call on Him, He will answer and will not forsake us.

Jesus is coming soon. We can choose to believe or not believe, but that doesn’t change this fact. With His soon coming, satan is kicking it into overdrive to desperately take as many people to their death with him as he can. We are to expect trials and testing through this time. That is a fact. But, we are not to despair but rather hang on even more tightly to the God who has promised He will never leave us nor forsake us. We are His people and He is our God. One day soon, this will all be over and every trial we ever went through will be worth the victory in the end. Our trials only mean our victory is that much closer!

Hang on to Jesus today. Let His victory in you shine forth.

Kimberly Mills

Elijah Road Ministries Devotionals

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