

In God We Trust: Trusting God When It's Hard

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – January 10, 2021

1 Peter 1:3-7

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. 7 These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Through Christ...

1. WE HAVE AN INHERITANCE THAT CAN NEVER PERISH, SPOIL OR FADE

1 Peter 1:3-5

3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you, 5 who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

But...

2. TRIALS ARE INEVITABLE IN THIS LIFE

1 Peter 1:6

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

John 16:33

33 [Jesus said] "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

3. TRIALS MATURE US AND PROVE OUR FAITH GENUINE

1 Peter 1:7

7 These (trials) have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine...

James 1:2-4

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. 4 Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

4. FAITHFULNESS THROUGH TRIALS BRINGS GOD PRAISE, GLORY AND HONOR

1 Peter 1:7

7 These have come so that your faith — ... may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Matthew 5:14-16

[Jesus said] 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."