



Perfected Under Pressure

The World is Evil

“Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave Himself (in exchange for) for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father...” (Galatians 1:3-4).

1. We are not taken out but are left in the world that is under a curse.
 - a. 1 John 5:19 – The whole world lies in wickedness.
 - b. 1 John 2:16 - For all that is in the world... is not of the Father...
2. We are left in the world with a curse still in us.
 - a. Romans 8:22-23
 - b. 2 Corinthians 5:2
 - c. We groan because we are left with adversity and trials.

The Eternal View of Trouble

1. Our treasure (spirit man) is in earthen vessels (natural body) (2 Corinthians 4:7-9).
2. We overcome through the knowledge of God’s word (2 Corinthians 4:16-18).
 - a. The “things not seen” are the promises of God.
 - b. The walk of faith looks beyond the trouble to the glory of God.
 - c. Tribulation can work for our good and God’s glory (Romans 8:28).
3. Tribulation is necessary for sanctification.
 - a. Tribulation does not come from God, but Satan.
 - b. Satan’s desire is to destroy us through tribulation.
 - c. God’s desire is to preserve and improve us through tribulation.
 - d. God’s weapons are proven in tribulation, combat with Satan, and circumstances.
4. Tribulation is necessary for spiritual growth.
 - a. Romans 5:3
 - b. James 1:2-3
 - c. Ephesians 6:10-11
 - d. 1 Peter 5:10
5. God’s wisdom is shown through those who endure tribulation (Ephesians 3:10).