

Refining – It's Just a Season

Key Scripture: 1 Pet. 1:6-7

❖ We must reject a culture of always “Going through.”

- It's difficult to walk in victory when you are always making excuses and seeking to be the victim – Mat. 25:14-30 (MSG); Another look at Psalm 23
- We have victory in spite of what we have or must face – Rom. 8:31-39
- We must make the distinction between being tried and being corrected – Pro. 15:32; Mat. 5: 11-12; Heb. 12:5-11
 - The Word brings correction – 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Tim. 4:2
- Blaming others for all our problems causes a season to become a lifetime – Pro. 28:13; Gal. 3:12-13

❖ Believers will be tried

- You are not immune from test – 1 Pet. 4:12
- Your faith often presents you for testing – Job 1:8; Mat. 5:10-12; Luke 14:27
- We are instructed by the Word on how to handle the testing – James 1:2-6; 1 Pet. 4:16
- The ultimate response to the testing is faithfulness and honoring God – Rev. 2:10; Heb. 12:1-3

❖ Background for 1 Pet. 1

- Peter writing to believers who are about to go through dark days
- Ceasar Nero wages war on Christians
- Peter senses the impending dangers for those scattered and going through but is preparing them for what is to come – 1 Pet. 1:1-5
- God will keep them in spite of it all – 1 Pet. 1:5j; John 10:28
 - Power – dunamis: force (literally or figuratively); specifically miraculous power (usually by implication a miracle itself): - ability, abundance, meaning, might (Strong's Hebrew and Greek Definitions)

The Season – vs. 6

- ❖ We go through seasons in life – Ecc. 3:1-8; Gen. 8:22; Psa. 1:3
- ❖ We are strengthened in difficult seasons as well – vs. 7; Psa. 30:4-5
- ❖ Each season comes with lessons – Psa. 16:7; Mat. 5:10-12; 2 Cor. 4:17; Rom. 5:1-5
- ❖ We must learn to depend upon what we know instead of what we see in the season – Rom. 8:28; Heb. 13:8

The Heaviness – vs 6

- ❖ Heaviness: lupeo: sorrow, to be grieved, sad – 1 Thes. 4:13
- ❖ Ignoring it does not make it go away – Job 14:14; James 1:2
- ❖ There is a weight of sorrow that can seem so heavy that it attempts to take you out in that season – Gal. 6:9;

Manifold Temptations – vs 6

- ❖ Manifold: varying in character and type
 - They are not the same but they are all common to God – 1 Cor. 10:13
 - We can not discredit someone else's experiences simply because they aren't ours – Rom 15:1-2; Phil. 2:4; 1 Cor. 12:26
- ❖ Temptations –

The Trial of Your Faith – vs. 7

- ❖ Trial: dokimion: 1)the proving; 2) that by which something is tried or proved, a test Thayer's Greek Definitions
- ❖ Your faith is more precious than gold that perishes – Heb. 11:1-6; Eph. 2:8-10
- ❖ The goal of the trying of our faith –
 - A faith that doesn't waver – Heb. 10:23; Eph. 6:16
 - A faith that will praise God – Psa. 34:1; 1 Thes. 5:18
 - A faith that will honor God – Heb. 13:15; Job 1:19-22
 - A faith that will glorify God – Psa. 150:6; 1 Pet. 4:12-19
 - Ultimately, a faith that leads to salvation – vs. 8-9

What Really Matters