When It Rains It Pours...

Staying Strong When Things-Go-Wrong



(Reuters) - Thu May 26, 2011 3:17pm EDT More than 500 people have been killed by twisters in 2011, ... As of mid-Thursday, 505 people had died in tornadoes this year, including at least 123 who died as a direct result of the monster storm that tore through Joplin, Missouri, on Sunday... The National Weather Service reported another 17 deaths this week in Oklahoma, Kansas and Arkansas . . . The total makes 2011 the seventh-deadliest tornado year on record in the U.S. and inches it closer to the 519 deaths recorded in 1953.

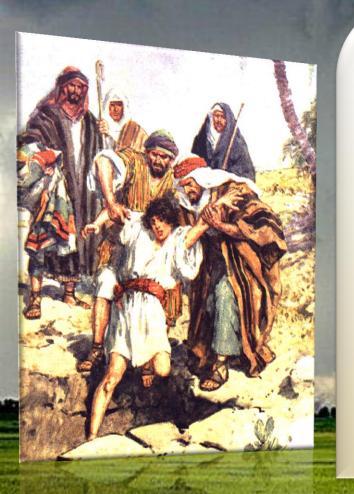
- → Our days are full of trouble Job 14:1
- → Suffering is a consequence of man's sin Gen. 3:19; Rom. 5:12
- ♦ We are sojourners, pilgrims through a world of trouble (the troubles of this life should prompt us to seek something better) Heb 11:13-16; 1 Pet 2:11
- ★ We should realize that EVERYTHING in this world is temporary (including its troubles) – 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Cor 4:8-9,16-18

Where Do We Turn?



- Many turn to drugs and alcohol -
- Many turn to sorcery or eastern cults —
- ◆ Many turn to human wisdom and so called science —
- ◆ We can find real solutions and peace ONLY when we by faith turn wholly to God!

Bible Examples . . .



- **◆Job** (Job 1-3)
- **◆Joseph** (Gen. 37,39,40)
- **♦ Moses** (Num. 11:14-15)
- **◆Elijah** (1 Kings 19)
- **David** (1 Sam. 18-30; Ps. 41-43)
- **→ Jeremiah** (Jer. 20:14-18)
- **◆Paul** (2 Cor. 12:7-10)
- **→ Jesus** (Luke 22:42-44; Heb. 5:7)

- ◆ Prepare For Storms before they come!
 Mat. 7:24-27; Luke 21:36; 2 Pet. 1:5-10
- → Enjoy the good times & be thankful! Eccl. 5:18; 1 Tim 6:17; James 1:17
- ★ Guard against anxiety / worry Mat. 6:25-34; Phili. 4:4-13; 1 Cor. 10:13
- ★ Cast our cares upon the Lord for He cares for us! 1 Pet 5:6-11; Heb 13:5,6
- → Understanding the purpose of trials James 1:2-16; 5:13-18

Things I Learned That Day

I walked a mile with Pleasure, She chattered all the way; But left me none the wiser For all she had to say! I walked a mile with Sorrow, And never a word said she; But, oh, the things I learned that day from her When sorrow walked with me!

- Unknown

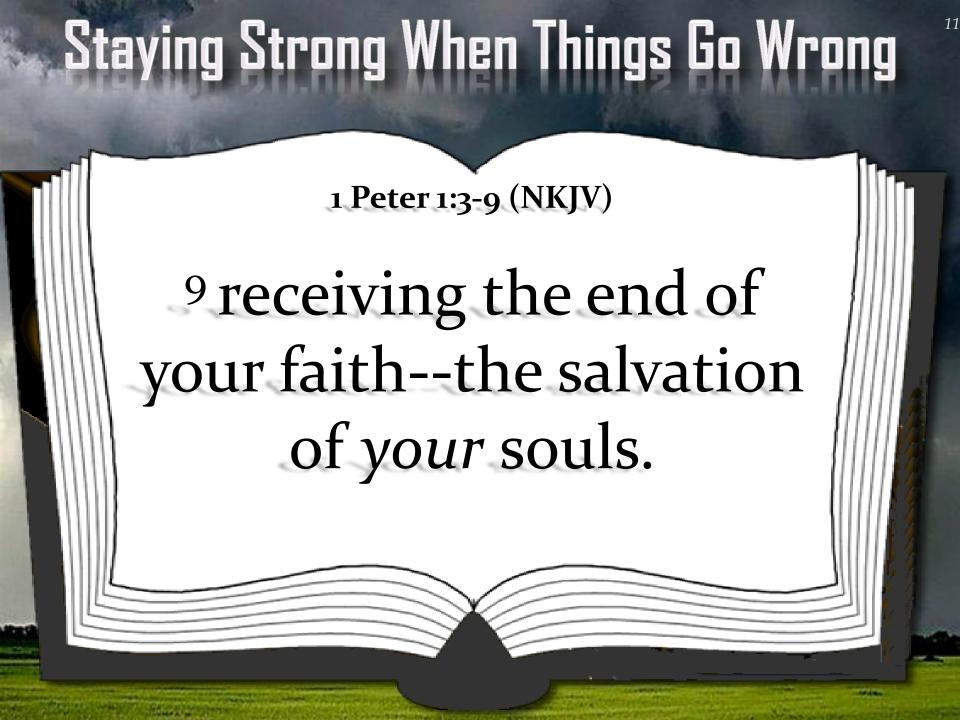
"God washes the eyes by tears until they can behold the invisible land where tears shall come no More." - Henry Ward Beecher

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NKJV)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time

1 Peter 1:3-9 (NKJV)

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,



1 Peter 5:6-11 (NKJV)

⁶Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, ⁷ casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. ⁸ Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

1 Peter 5:6-11 (NKJV)

⁹ Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. ¹⁰ But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. ¹¹ To Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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Prepared March 24-28, 2011
Preached March 29, 2011
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