

## **Do Not be Surprised at Trials**

By Mitchell Kuhn

**1Pe 4:12 (NKJV) Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;**

Peter tells us to NOT think our trials are strange, because we WILL think they are strange when they first come upon us.

**Isa 55:8 (NKJV)** "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD.

**Isa 55:9 (NKJV)** "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

**Pro 19:18 (KJV)** Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.

**Psa 107:24 (NKJV)** They see the works of the LORD, **And His wonders in the deep.**

**Psa 107:25 (NKJV)** For He commands and raises the stormy wind, Which lifts up the waves of the sea.

**Psa 107:26 (NKJV)** They mount up to the heavens, They go down again to the depths; **Their soul melts because of trouble.**

**Psa 107:27 (NKJV)** They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, And are at their wits' end.

**Psa 107:28 (NKJV)** **Then they cry out to the LORD in their trouble,** And He brings them out of their distresses.

**Psa 107:29 (NKJV)** **He calms the storm,** So that its waves are still.

**Psa 107:30 (NKJV)** Then they are glad because they are quiet; So He guides them to their desired haven.

**1Pe 4:13 (NKJV)** but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

**1Pe 4:14 (NKJV)** **If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you,** for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

**1Pe 4:15 (NKJV)** **But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.**

**1Pe 4:16 (NKJV)** Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.

**1Pe 2:20 (NKJV)** **For what credit *is it if, when you are beaten for your faults,*** you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this *is* commendable before God.

**Joh 15:18 (NKJV)** "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you.

**Joh 15:19 (NKJV)** If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

What is the world?

**Jer 22:29 (NKJV)** **O earth, earth, earth,** Hear the word of the LORD!

**Mat 23:37 (NKJV)** "**O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her!** How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under *her* wings, but you were not willing!

**Mat 23:38 (NKJV)** See! Your house is left to you desolate;

**Mat 23:39 (NKJV)** for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'BLESSED is HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!' "

**Mat 13:36 (NKJV)** Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."

**Mat 13:37 (NKJV)** He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man.

**Mat 13:38 (NKJV)** **The field is the world,** the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked *one*.

Christ said this about the parable of the sower:

**Mar 4:13** And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables?"

What is every parable about?

**Mat 13:24** Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "**The kingdom of heaven is like** a man who sowed good seed in his field;

Kingdom of heaven and Kingdom of God are used interchangeably.

**Luk 17:20 (NKJV)** Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation;

**Luk 17:21 (NKJV)** nor will they say, '**See here!**' or '**See there!**' **For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.**"

Who is the world that hates us?

**Eph 6:12 (NKJV)** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness **in the heavenly places.**

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2012-10/what-and-where-is-heaven/>

**Gal 5:17 (NKJV)** For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

The old man hates the new man and the flesh hates the Spirit.

Every command in scripture is given because we naturally want to do the opposite.

**Gen 3:16 (ESV)** To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. **Your desire shall be contrary to your husband**, but he shall rule over you."

**Eph 5:31 (NKJV)** "FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH."

**Eph 5:32 (NKJV)** **This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.**

We are naturally against our husband Christ, and rebel against his commands. We should not be surprised that ourselves and others do not naturally desire obedience or don't understand the truth. When you read a command in scriptures, know that our natural desire is the opposite and we are blinded to the truth. And once you see it you can't do it.

**1Co 2:14 (NKJV)** But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Why are we surprised when a blind man can't see and that a beast wants to act like a beast! Because we are a blind beast ourselves. Here are some examples:

We do not naturally like anyone ruling over us:

**Rom 13:1 (NKJV)** Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2016-04/christians-and-politics/>

We naturally show partiality and despise those we consider less than us:

**Jas 2:2 (NKJV)** For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes,

**Jas 2:3 (NKJV)** and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool,"

**Jas 2:4 (NKJV) have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?**

**Jas 2:5 (NKJV)** Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world *to be* rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?

We naturally think more highly of ourselves than we should:

**Rom 12:3 (NKJV)** For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

We are slow to hear, quick to speak, and quick to wrath:

**Jas 1:19 (NKJV)** So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;

We don't seek a multitude of counselors:

**Pro 15:22 (NKJV)** Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are established.

We don't provoke one another to good works and tend to isolate

**Heb 10:24 (NKJV)** And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

**Heb 10:25 (NKJV)** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

We don't give thanks and submit to one another

**Eph 5:20 (NKJV)** giving thanks always for **all things** to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Eph 5:21 (NKJV) submitting to one another in the fear of God.**

We do not want to defer to our leaders:

**Heb 13:17 (CLV)** Be persuaded by your leaders, and be deferring to them, for they are vigilant for the sake of your souls, as having to render an account, that they may be doing this with joy, and not with groaning, for this is disadvantageous for you."

We will rebel against every one of these commands as we live by every word.

<http://tryingthespirits.com/2017-02/how-to-conduct-yourself-in-the-house-of-god/>

[http://tryingthespirits.com/study\\_notes/How To Properly Function as a Body.pdf](http://tryingthespirits.com/study_notes/How_To_Properly_Function_as_a_Body.pdf)

We speak evil of others and harbor bitterness and forgiveness:

**Eph 4:29 (ESV)** Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

**Eph 4:30 (ESV)** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

**Eph 4:31 (ESV)** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

**Eph 4:32 (ESV) Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**

Yet all of this evil is for our good.

**2Co 4:15 (NKJV) For all things are for your sakes**, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

**2Co 4:16 (NKJV) Therefore we do not lose heart.** Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day.

**2Co 4:17 (NKJV)** For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory,

**2Co 4:18 (NKJV)** while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

We are saved from sin through our sin.

**Jer 2:19 (NKJV)** Your own wickedness will correct you, And your backslidings will rebuke you. Know therefore and see that *it is* an evil and bitter *thing* That you have forsaken the LORD your God, And the fear of Me *is* not in you," Says the Lord GOD of hosts.

Joseph speaking to his brothers.

**Gen 50:20 (NKJV)** But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.

**Psa 139:11 (NKJV)** If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me;

**Psa 139:12 (NKJV)** Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light *are* both alike *to You*.

**Rom 8:28 (NKJV)** **And we know that all things work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

Eph 4:16 (NKJV) from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.