

Part 8 How to Deal with Calamities in your Life

Dear friends and fellow believers, have you had calamities in your life that were so unexpected, difficult and beyond your ability to deal with? I know from my own experience, it happened to me many times. We ask this question so often, why do bad things happen to godly people? The truth is that bad things happen to believers and unbelievers alike.

Firstly, remember that Jesus said that calamities will come to the foolish and the wise builders, but the foundation of the house made the difference:

Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. (Matthew 7:24-27 KJV)

Secondly, being Christians means that we have become enemy of the prince of this world Satan, and he is constantly watching to bring harm to believers as per the following scripture.

Be sober, be vigilant because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking whom he may devour: (1Peter 5:8 KJV)

Thirdly, Jesus warned us that in this world we will face many trials and tribulations but with His strength we can overcome them:

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me you might have peace. In the world you shall have tribulations but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33 KJV)

So, how do we deal practically with calamities in our lives? God gives us the answer in the book of James:

*Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. **(James 5:13-16 KJV)***

If we face trials and tribulations that are beyond our ability to cope, we must immediately share our burden with the elders in the body of Christ and ask in line with the Word just quoted to pray over our situation that we face. Please receive anointing and let the elders persevere in prayer with you until the storm has passed.

It is also very important in those times of afflictions to stay pure before the Lord and seek the Holy Spirit's council if in any area of your life you may have opened a door for the enemy to attack. If that is the case, confess it, repent of it and surrender it to God. Not always that may be the case, sometimes it will be simply persecution or spiritual warfare because of your faith in Jesus. In that case, break away from the spirit of self-pity and give God the praise with a thankful heart that you were counted worthy to suffer for His name sake.

*And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. **(Act 5:41 KJV)***

Fellow believers, I cannot stress enough how important is to fellowship together. You may have been hurt, ridiculed or mistreated in churches or fellowships. Give your pain as an offering to God and ask Him to send you to a fellowship where brotherly love is shared amongst believers, but do not be a lone ranger. It is not the way of Jesus for his children.

Our next part 9 is about guidance on how to read the Bible.