

One Step to Freedom Chapter 4 Lesson 1: Freedom in trials, tribulation and temptations through Obedience and adhering to God's Word

**TRIALS: Hebrews Strong concordance for "Trial" :H3564 H7711*

- 1.) a burning; the burning by which metals are roasted and reduced*
- 2.) by a figure drawn from a refiners fire*
- 3.) calamities or trials that test the character*

1Peter 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.

Reference; Psalm 66:10

**Jesus told us we can expect trials in our life in this world;*

John 16:33 (NKJV) Jesus speaking; These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have *tribulation (trials); but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

**Tribulation; In the Bible, "tribulation" generally refers to trials of severe affliction, distress or trouble. It can encompass various forms of hardship, including persecution, suffering, and difficult circumstances. In a Christian context, tribulation can be seen as a time of testing and refining of faith, while also acknowledging the reality of suffering in a fallen world.*

**The victory we can have over this world by our Faith in Jesus Christ, Who has overcome the world:*

1 John 5:4-5(AMP)^{4a} For everyone born *again* of God is victorious and overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered *and* overcome the world; ^bour continuing, persistent faith in Jesus the Son of God.^{5a} Who is the one who is victorious *and* overcomes the world? ^bIt is the one who believes *and* recognizes the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. Reference; 1 Corinthians 15:57

1.) In vs.4a; Who is the one that is victorious and overcomes the world?

2.) In vs.4b; How is the victory that has conquered and overcomes the world achieved/acquired?

3.) *In vs.5b; Who is the one who is victorious and overcomes the world?*

**God`s purpose for us in our trials:*

1 Peter 1:6-9 (NKJV) ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ^{7[a]}that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, ^[b]may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹receiving the end of your faith, the salvation of *your* souls.

1.) *In vs.7a; What is being tested by the various trials we are grieved by?*

2.) *In vs.7a; What is the subject of our testing by various trials compared to?*

3.) *In vs.7b; What is the desired result of the testing fire in the various trials we are grieved by?*

4.) *In vs.9;What do we receive at the end of our faith?*

James 1:2-4 (NKJV) ²My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

1.) *In vs.2;What should our response be to falling into various trials?*

2.) *In vs.3;What is the reason given why we can count it joy when we fall into various trials?*

3.) *In vs 4; What are we to do with the by-product of the testing of our faith?*

Reference Romans 12:12

**Having an eternal perspective in our trials:*

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NKJV) ^{17a} For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, ^b is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ 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.

1.) *In vs.17a; what is the length of time we endure our light affliction presently, compared to the time frame of eternity?*

2.) *In vs.17b; What is our “light” affliction working out in and for us?*

1 Peter 5:10 (NKJV) 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*.

1.) *In this verse; What is the intended purpose of suffering through trials and tribulations?*

**Temptation: Webster's 1828 Dictionary; Solicitation of the passions; enticements to evil proceeding from the prospect of pleasure or advantage.*

**Sources of temptation:*

**The world;*

1 John 2:16 (AMP) For all that *is* in the world; the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. rom 12:2

1 John 5:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one[satan].

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (AMP) ³ But even if our gospel is [in some sense] hidden [behind a veil], it is hidden [only] to those who are perishing; ⁴ among them the god of this world [Satan] has blinded the minds of the unbelieving to prevent

them from seeing the illuminating light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**Sources of temptation continued:*

**Satan; reign of temptation:*

-In heaven; Tempting other angels to mutiny against God:

Revelation 12:9 (NKJV) ⁹ So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, **and his angels were cast out with him.**

-In the Garden of Eden tempting Eve:

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV) ³ But I fear, lest somehow, **as the serpent deceived Eve [with temptation]** by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

-In the wilderness tempting Jesus Christ The Messiah:

Matthew 4:1 (NKJV) Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness **to be tempted by the devil.**

-Tempting The nation of Israel using King David:

1 Chronicles 21:1 (NKJV) Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved (tempted) David to number Israel.

-Tempting The Church:

1 Thessalonians 3:5 (NKJV) ⁵ For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, **lest by some means the tempter [satan] had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.**

-Tempting husband and wife in Marriage:

1 Corinthians 7:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Do not deprive one another except with consent for a time, that you may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

**Using sinners to Tempt born again believers:*

Proverbs 1:10-15 (NKJV) ¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice/tempt|you, **Do not consent.** ¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, Let us lie in wait to shed blood; Let us lurk secretly for the innocent without cause;¹² Let us swallow them alive like Sheol, And whole like those who go down to the Pit;¹³ We shall find all kinds of precious possessions, We shall fill

our houses with ^[el]spoil;¹⁴ Cast in your lot among us, Let us all have one purse”¹⁵ My son, do not walk in the way with them, Keep your foot from their path;

**Sources of temptation continued:*

**Our own flesh:*

James 1:14b (NKJV) ^{14b} **But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his/her own desires and enticed.**

Matthew 26:41b(NKJV) The spirit indeed *is* willing, but **the flesh is weak.**”

**God offers a way of escape from temptations:*

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV) ¹³ **No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God *is* faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.**

**God`s instruction for the way(s) of escape from temptation:*

2 Peter 2:9 (NKJV) ⁹ **The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment.**

Reference; psalm 46:1

Romans 13:14 (NKJV) ¹⁴ **But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts. *Hebrews 2:18,4:15***

1.) How can we put on The Lord Jesus Christ?

Ephesians 6:11 (NKJV) ¹¹ **Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles (*temptations*) of the devil**

1.) What is the instruction given to come against temptation in this verse?

1 Peter 5:8-9 (NKJV) ⁸ **Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (*tempt*). ⁹ Resist**

him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

1.) What are the instructions given to come against the tempter; satan, in this verse?

**God`s instruction for the way(s)of escape from temptation (continued):*

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

1.) How can we walk in the Spirit as not to fulfill the lust of the flesh?

2 Timothy 2:22 (NKJV) ²² Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

References; 1 Corinthians 14:20, 1 Corinthians 13:11, Jeremiah 4:22, Jeremiah 31:18-19

Mark 14:38 (NKJV) ³⁸ Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” Reference; Hebrews 4:16, Ephesians 3:16

1.) What is the instruction given to come against temptation in this verse?

2.) Why are we instructed to pray in this manner?

Romans 6:21 (NKJV) ²¹ What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

1.) Can you recall the consequences of being overtaken by your temptations in the past?

2.) Can you recall the death of something in being overtaken by your temptations in the past?

** A good verse to remember when tempted!*

Psalm 119:67(NKJV) ⁶⁷ Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your Word.

**The best defense that we have for trials and temptations is the Word of God hidden in our hearts. As we saturate ourselves with God's Word, we can have power against sin.*

Psalm 119:11 (NKJV) “Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.” Reference: Matthew 4:1-11

**God puts our faith to the test and tests us to the breaking point of our abilities and resources so we will learn to trust in Him instead of ourselves. Our resources are limited; but when we look to God, we have unlimited resources. Our strength is limited; but when we rely on God, we have unlimited strength:*

Psalm 18:32 (NKJV) ³² It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect.

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Isaiah 40:29 (NKJV) ²⁹ He gives power to the weak, And to *those who have* no might He increases strength.

Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ Fear not, for I *am* with you; Be not dismayed, for I *am* your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (NKJV) ⁹ And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Colossians 1:11(NKJV) ¹¹ strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;

Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

**God's promised blessing to those who endures temptation and does not sin:*

James 1:12(NKJV) “Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been tried *and* approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

1.) How does one endure temptation to be approved by God? Reference; 1Peter 1:7

2.) What is the reward for the one that endures temptation and has been approved?