



HEBRON

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Dr. Landon Dowden

PATIENTLY AND JOYFULLY PERSEVERING IN PRAYER

Romans 12:12 (ESV)

- I. BY GOD'S MERCIES, THE GOSPEL COMMUNITY IS PATIENT IN TRIBULATION
 - a. We rejoice in the God who uses all things, including grieving trials, for the good of our faith and His glory.

 - b. We need to have a biblical perspective on our trials:
 - i. We WILL have trials - *The certainty of tribulation* (John 16:33; Job 14:1; 5:7)
 - ii. We will ALL have trials - *The universality of tribulation* (1 Pet. 4:12; 5:9; Job. 1:13-19; Acts 14:19-20; 2 Cor. 1:8-9; Matt. 27:24-31)
 - iii. We will all have VARIOUS trials - *The variety of tribulation* (1 Pet. 2:11; 5:8; James 1:2; 1 Pet. 4:15)
 - iv. Trials can be grieving
 - v. Trials are only for a little while
 - vi. Trials are necessary

 - c. We need to understand God's purpose for our trials:
 - i. We are all called to BE PATIENT in every trial - *Our attitude in tribulation*
 - 1. How is patience produced? (Col. 1:11)
 - 2. Why be patient?
 - a. Remember *the purpose of tribulation* (2 Cor. 1:9-11; 12:9-10; James 1:2-4; Romans 5:1-5)
 - i. God uses trials to purify our faith.
 - ii. God uses trials to prove our faith.
 - iii. God uses trials to make our faith more precious than anything else in creation.
 - iv. After the trials, our faith will result in praise and glory and honor.
 - b. In God's providence, no pain is ever wasted.



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- II. BY GOD'S MERCIES, THE GOSPEL COMMUNITY REJOICES IN HOPE
 - a. Elpis – confident trust rather than uncertain expectation.
 - b. What is the “certain” hope that causes us to be joyful?
 - i. THE GOSPEL (1 Pet. 1:3-9; Rom. 5:1-2; 2 Cor. 4:17)
 - c. How Jesus rejoiced – Heb. 12:2

- III. BY GOD'S MERCIES, THE GOSPEL COMMUNITY PERSEVERES IN PRAYER
 - a. Steadfastly maintain the habit of prayer.
 - b. Do we wake up longing to talk to our Heavenly Father?
 - c. Do we love talking to Him throughout the day?
 - d. Is our last conversation each night with Him?
 - e. Barclay: “No man should be surprised when life collapses if he insists on living it alone.”
 - f. Mounce: Most Christians will confess the difficulty of maintaining a regular and effective prayer life.
 - g. Boice: The only reasons we might fail to pray are that: (1) we do not think we need God's help, thinking that we are adequate of ourselves, or (2) we do not believe God really is a loving heavenly Father.