

Romans 8:14-25—Life in the Spirit makes us able to understand and endure suffering

Memory Verse

Romans 12:1-2 NKJV

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Revision for: Romans 8:5-13—Freedom from Defeat: No Obligation To Sin

Last time we saw that:

1. The mind is the strategic battleground where the battle between the flesh (sinful nature) and the Spirit is fought (vs 5-6)
2. The believer puts to death the deeds of the body by forcing the flesh (sinful nature) to submit to the Spirit—*which can only be done by the power of the Spirit* (vs 12-13)
3. There are many ways that people can fool themselves into thinking that they are walking in the Spirit when they are actually walking in the flesh:
 - Good intentions are not evidence of walking in the spirit (“the road to hell is paved with good intentions”)
 - Living by what feels right or good (by emotions) is living by the flesh (sinful nature). Living by faith in the truth of God’s Word is living by the Spirit.
 - It’s not *what* I do but *why* I do it. Motivation is everything. Religious zeal can be deceiving. There are many in the church who are only motivated to serve because it benefits them.
 - The only real evidence of someone walking in the Spirit is when they produce the *fruit* of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, righteousness and truth (see Galatians 5:22-23 and Ephesians 5:8-12). The person who is walking in the Spirit will be willing to speak the truth in love, even if it hurts.

The following is an application from Jon Courson’s Application Commentary that summarises well how to put to death the sinful nature by the power of the Spirit, and how to avoid the common trap that many new believers fall into—trying to overcome their sinful nature using their own strength instead of God’s.

“I must mortify the deeds of the body,” some people say. “I’ve got to crucify my flesh”—but it’s impossible to crucify yourself. If you lie down on a cross and pound a nail through your wrist, even if you somehow endure the pain, you’re only half crucified because you can’t pound in the other nail. How do you mortify the deeds of the flesh? There’s only one way: through the Spirit.

After capturing the ark of the covenant, the Philistines placed it in the temple of their fish god, Dagon. The next morning, the Philistine priests got up to find Dagon had fallen down before the Ark (1 Samuel 5:3). They stood Dagon up and went their way. The next morning, they came in again, and there was Dagon, facedown on the floor, with his head and hands cut off. Now, at this point, you would think the priests would have said, “Something’s fishy here. This isn’t working.” But, instead, they chose to side with Dagon. They stood him up, patched him together, and said, “The ark’s gotta go.”

Precious people, the way to gain victory over whatever it is you're struggling with is not to try to topple Dagon, but to bring in the ark, for the ark represents the presence of God. Whatever your Dagon might be, bring in the Spirit of the Lord. How? Just love the Lord. Get up tomorrow morning and before your feet hit the ground, drop to your knees, and give your life to Him. When He whispers in your heart during your coffee break, "Pull away and talk with Me," do it. When you're deciding which dial to press on your radio during lunch, just do what the Spirit tells you to do. Allow the Spirit of God to fill your heart, and you know what will happen? You'll lose interest in the stuff that dominated and controlled you—not because you wrestled with Dagon, but because you brought in the ark.

That's why Romans 8 is so thrilling! Too many believers are trying to fight evil habits and tendencies on their own—and it's exhausting. If you walk into a dark room, you don't scream, karate chop, give teachings about, or rebuke the darkness. You turn on the light." (Jon Courson)

Romans 8:14-25—Life in the Spirit makes us able to understand and endure suffering

Outline:

1. Living in the Spirit means living as a child of God (v 14)
2. Adoption into God's Family—Abba Father (v 15)
3. The evidence we are children of God: the testimony of the Holy Spirit (v 16)
4. The benefits and responsibilities of being God's children (v 17)
5. Why suffering in the will of God is always worth it (v 18)
6. All of creation is awaiting and anticipating this coming glory (v 19-22)
7. Believers also groan and wait with perseverance for the coming glory (v 23-25)

Romans 8:14-25 NKJV

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

1. Living in the Spirit means living as a child of God

Romans 8:14 NKJV

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Romans 8:14 AMP

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

Romans 8:14 NLT

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

The logical and reasonable response of believers

v 14 **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God:** It makes sense that those who belong to God, who are a part of His family, should think, speak, and act like Him—that we should be **led by the Spirit of God** as we submit our will to God's. Jesus said that where much is given, then much is required (see Luke 12:48). Since Jesus gave His *all* for us (much is given), then it's only reasonable and logical for every believer to give their *all* to Him in complete submission (much is required, see Romans 12:1-2).

v 14 **led by the Spirit of God:** "The verb here means "willingly led." We yield to the Spirit, and He guides us by His Word day by day." (Warren W. Wiersbe)

What comes first and what a mature Christian looks like

It's important to realise that a person must first become a child of God (a believer), *before* they can be led by the Spirit of God. As the believer matures in their faith—by learning to love and trust God, and so obey what the Bible says with their whole heart (see Psalm 119:2, 10, 34, 58, 69 and 145)—then and only then will they begin to experience the wonderful joy of the Spirit leading them and producing His beautiful light, life, and fruit in their lives.

Don't be fooled into thinking that Bible knowledge, natural ability, or the gifts of the Spirit are the same thing as the fruit of the Spirit. The Christian life is not a performance—believers are not to be actors, pretending to be someone they are not just so they can impress others—God sees straight through this blatant but hidden or subtle hypocrisy.

Christian maturity is biblically measured by how much fruit of the Spirit is produced by God in their lives (see Galatians 5:22-23 and Ephesians 5:8-12 for what this looks like). Therefore, by definition, an immature Christian is someone who is saved, but not led by the Spirit very much, or even at all! All believers start at like this.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3 NLT—*Paul rebukes the Corinthian church for not growing up*

Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. ² I had to feed you with milk, not with solid food, because you weren't ready for anything stronger. And you still aren't ready, ³ for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn't that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren't you living like people of the world?

Hebrews 4:2-3a AMP—*Maturing is directly linked to learning to trust God*

For indeed we have had the glad tidings [Gospel of God] proclaimed to us just as truly as they [the Israelites of old did when the good news of deliverance from bondage came to them]; but the message they heard did not benefit them, *because it was not mixed with faith (with the leaning of the entire personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness)* by those who heard it...

³ For we who have believed (adhered to and trusted in and relied on God) do enter that rest...

However, as a believer grows in maturity by exercising their faith in God's word in loving obedience (see Hebrews 4:3 above), then they live more and more of their lives submitted to God, seeking God's will and not their own. The more frequently they are submitted to God and so follow God's leading in their lives, the more Christlike (less worldly) they become.

What it looks and feels like to be led by the Spirit—the test of sonship

David Guzik gives the following application: "Paul didn't say, "As many as go to church, these are the sons of God." He didn't say, "As many as read their Bibles, these are the sons of God." ...He didn't say, "As many as take communion, these are the sons of God." In this text, the test for sonship is whether or not a person is **led by the Spirit of God**.

How does the Holy Spirit lead us?

- We are led by *guidance*
- We are led by *drawing*
- We are led by *governing authority*
- We are led as we *cooperate with* the leading. "It does not say, 'As many as are driven by the Spirit of God.' No, the devil is a driver, and when he enters either into men or into hogs he drives them furiously. Remember how the whole herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea. Whenever you see a man fanatical and wild, whatever spirit is in him it is not the Spirit of Christ." (Spurgeon)

Where does the Holy Spirit lead us?

- He leads us to *repentance* [humility]
- He leads us to think *little of self* and *much of Jesus*
- He leads us into *truth*
- He leads us into *love*
- He leads us into *holiness*
- He leads us into *usefulness*" (David Guzik)

2. Adoption into God's Family—Abba Father

Romans 8:15 NKJV

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

Romans 8:15 AMP

For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!

Romans 8:15 NLT

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

v 15 **For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear:** The fear of failure and condemnation is what all people experience before salvation. The believer continues to experience this fear whenever he is not walking in the Spirit: he is putting himself back under the law in a practical sense—trying to be good enough on his own strength (trying to live up to a standard that he knows deep down that he can never live up to by his own ability).

v 15 **But you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father”:** “Abba” is a term of endearment that means daddy. God wants us to relate to Him as *Daddy* Father, just like a little child runs to his father for safety, protection, affirmation, love, guidance, support, help, encouragement, etc.

God both desires that all people accept His invitation to become children of God, and then experience an intimate relationship with Him. Of course God will not force anyone to do anything to do anything against their will—that would not be love—love is based on free choice. So the choice is always the same—“Will I humble myself and submit myself to God and become completely dependant on God, or will I instead do what I want to do and trust in my own resources to achieve what I want?”

Matthew 18:3-4 AMP

And said, Truly I say to you, unless you repent (change, turn about) and become like little children [trusting, lowly, loving, forgiving], you can never enter the kingdom of heaven [at all].

⁴ Whoever will humble himself therefore and become like this little child [trusting, lowly, loving, forgiving] is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Jeremiah 3:19 NLT

“I thought to myself, ‘I would love to treat you as my own children!’ I wanted nothing more than to give you this beautiful land—the finest possession in the world. I looked forward to your calling me ‘Father,’ and I wanted you never to turn from me.

Galatians 4:4-7 NLT

But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. ⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. ⁶ And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷ Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

v 15 **We cry out, “Abba, Father”:** “It is easy for us to think of Jesus relating to the Father with this joyful confidence, but we may think we are disqualified for it. However, remember that we are *in Christ*—*we have the privilege of relating to the Father even as Jesus Christ does.*” (David Guzik)

What it means to be adopted into God’s family

This adoption into God’s family is a truly amazing concept; the believer basically has all the rights and privileges that Jesus has (We will learn more about how this works as we go). When we become a child of God the Father, we also become the brother of Jesus.

Hebrews 2:11-12 NLT

So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them [believers] His brothers and sisters. ¹² For He said to God [the Father],

“I will proclaim Your name to My brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people.”

It’s important that we understand what Paul meant by adoption in his day, how the Romans viewed adoption. Then we can better understand the wonderful gift and blessing this is. God has given us much more than just forgiveness of sins.

“In the Roman world of the first century a.d. an adopted son was a son deliberately chosen by his adoptive father to perpetuate his name and inherit his estate; he was no whit inferior in status to a son born in the ordinary course of nature.” (Bruce)

“Under Roman adoption, the life and standing of the adopted child changed completely. The adopted son lost all rights in his old family and gained all new rights in his new family; the old life of the adopted son was completely wiped out, with all debts being canceled, with nothing from his past counting against him any more.” (David Guzik)

3. The evidence we are children of God: the testimony of the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:16 NKJV

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Romans 8:16 AMP

The Spirit Himself [thus] testifies together with our own spirit, [assuring us] that we are children of God.

Romans 8:16 NLT

For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God’s children.

v 16 **The Spirit Himself bears witness to our spirit that we are children of God:** Those who are in relationship with God know they are in relationship with God because they experience that love relationship with God. It’s like someone asking me if my wife exists. I answer, “Of course my wife exists, I have a love relationship with her. I can’t have a real relationship with someone who doesn’t exist.” So to, those who are in relationship with God will know it—they will experience his love in the same way that a father and his son share their love with each other.

However, there will still many who think that they are Christians, but who are not; often they replace the genuine work of the Spirit in the life of the believer with a soulish or emotional experience. They may have prayed the sinners prayer, but not with a repentant heart.

Matthew 7:21-23 NKJV

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’

Then there are those who really are believers, but they listen to the lies and deception of the enemy and so begin to doubt the reality of their conversion. However, our feelings lie, and we just need to come back to the truth.

1 John 3:20 AMP

Whenever our hearts in [tormenting] self-accusation make us feel guilty and condemn us. [For we are in God’s hands.] For He is above and greater than our consciences (our hearts), and He knows (perceives and understands) everything [nothing is hidden from Him].

4. The benefits and responsibilities of being God's children

Romans 8:17 NKJV

And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

Romans 8:17 AMP

And if we are [His] children, then we are [His] heirs also: heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ [sharing His inheritance with Him]; only we must share His suffering if we are to share His glory.

Romans 8:17 NLT

And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.

v 17 **And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ:** We come back to the fact that the believer's adoption in to God's family is a truly amazing privilege. Here we learn of some of the rights and privileges that Jesus shares with us—just as Jesus is the rightful heir of the father, when we are adopted into God's family, we become heirs just like Jesus (**joint heirs with Christ**). Jesus literally shares everything with us.

Our adoption into God's family is another benefit of being *in Christ*. "Because we are *in Christ*, we have the privilege of relating to the Father as Jesus does. Therefore, we are **heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ**." (David Guzik)

"Being a child of God also means having an inheritance. In Luke 18:18 the rich young ruler asked Jesus, "*what must I do to inherit?*" But the rich young ruler missed the point because inheritance is not a matter of doing, it is a matter of *being*—of *being* in the right family." (David Guzik)

v 17 **If indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together:** There are many verses in the Scriptures that tell us that the believer will suffer because they are a believer (examples include: John 15:18-20, Philippians 3:10-11, and 2 Timothy 3:12). But here we find out *why we suffer with Him*, it is so **that we may also be glorified together** with Him.

There is no glory without suffering. The degree of glory we receive is directly proportional to the level of humiliation we willing to accept and endure. Jesus receives the highest honour, because He suffered the most (see Hebrews 12:2-3). The more we are willing to suffer for the sake of Christ, the more we will be transformed into the image of Christ, and the more glory or reward we will receive when we stand before God.

Jon Courson gives a good analogy that helps us to understand why God can't just let us do what we want, to continue to do what feels good and comes naturally to us.

"Many years ago, we adopted our cat Gabriel *into* our family. From that point on, he had to be adapted *for* our family. That is, he had to learn not to use Peter's bed for his litter box, not to climb on the curtains, not to claw the couch. So, too, as adopted sons, the suffering we experience presently is for the purpose of adapting us spiritually and will one day disappear totally in light of the glory we will partake of eternally." (Jon Courson)

So we see that as a child of God, we follow the same basic path to glory as Jesus did, through bearing our own cross (suffering). See Luke 9:23.

Satan offered Jesus the world in Matthew 4:8-10; the temptation then was for Jesus to gain the world, without having to suffer for it. All Jesus had to do to avoid the cross was submit to or worship Satan, and Satan would have given all the kingdoms of the world to Jesus—but of course Jesus would have been subservient to Satan! Satan tries the same with us—“you can have what you want, without having to suffer or work for it, but you will be my slave.”

If Jesus had to learn obedience through what He suffered, then so do His brethren (see Hebrews 5:8-9). Overcoming temptation and enduring trials and persecution is hard, but the results are worth it. We must fight the fleshly urge to always have an easy and comfortable life, and instead embrace suffering in the will of God as a good thing because of the glory that it produces, which will we read about in the next verse.

5. Why suffering in the will of God is always worth it

Romans 8:18 NKJV

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Romans 8:18 AMP

[But what of that?] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time (this present life) are not worth being compared with the glory that is about to be revealed to us and in us and for us and conferred on us!

Romans 8:18 NLT

Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

v 18 **For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us:** Here is the principle of *delayed gratification*. I can eat my cake now or later, but not both. For example, to be a lawyer, a student must endure poverty and hardship for 6 years while they are a student. However, when they graduate, they get to enjoy a good life in a material sense. In the same way, if I try to escape or avoid suffering in this world, either by not taking a stand for Christ and being persecuted, or not resisting temptation, or seeking to minimise or escape trials, then I will receive very little glory or reward when I stand before Christ.

v 18 **Revealed in us:** This glory or reward is not primarily something that is given to us, but what will be revealed in us. It has much more to do with who we will be revealed as—our Christlike character and strong faith will be on display for all to see.

1 Peter 1:6-7 NLT

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. *So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.*

6. All of creation is awaiting and anticipating this coming glory

Romans 8:19-22 NKJV

For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now.

Romans 8:19-22 NLT

For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. ²⁰ Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, ²¹ the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. ²² For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

v 19, 21 **The earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits... to be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God:** God created a perfect world (see Genesis 1:31). But then sin entered the world because of man and the world was cursed (see Genesis 3). Now the creation is waiting to be redeemed or delivered from **the bondage of corruption** into **the glorious liberty of the children of God** (freedom from death and decay).

When will this happen? When the sons of God are revealed, when Jesus comes back with the church at His Second Coming and rules on the earth for 1000 years (see Isaiah 11:1-5, and Revelation 20:4-6). We will have our glorified bodies, and the tremendous glory that God has produced in us through what we suffered will be clearly revealed to all of creation. What does this redemption of creation look like?

Isaiah 11:6-9 NKJV

The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra's hole, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

v 20 **Him who subjected it in hope:** It was God who cursed the world, but He did it for a good reason, for a good purpose—there is hope. In the same way, God allows His children to suffer now, but again, it is for a good reason, a good purpose, and so we too can have hope for the future (see vs 23-25).

v 22 **The whole creation groans and labours with birth pangs together until now:** Notice that these are birth pangs, and not death pangs—the pain will end when deliverance comes and the glory that God is producing in us is revealed when we get our glorified bodies.

7. Believers also groan and wait with perseverance for the coming glory

Romans 8:23-25 NKJV

Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Romans 8:23-25 NLT

And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. ²⁴ We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. ²⁵ But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

v 23 **Who have the firstfruits of the Spirit (we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory):** Even in the midst of our suffering in this world, we have a taste of the glory to come because the Holy Spirit lives in us. Therefore, we can experience, even now, some of the tremendous joy and glory that will one day be ours to a much greater extent.

1 John 3:2-3 NKJV

Beloved, now we are children of God; *and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him*, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

v 23 **Eagerly waiting for the adoption:** Romans 8:15 says that we are already adopted, and yes we are, but our adoption is not yet complete—we are still waiting for **the redemption of our body**. In the meantime, we **groan** as we experience **suffering** because we live in both a fallen body and a fallen world.

1 Corinthians 15:53 AMP

For this perishable [part of us] must put on the imperishable [nature], and this mortal [part of us, this nature that is capable of dying] must put on immortality (freedom from death).

Philippians 3:20-21 AMP

But we are citizens of the state (commonwealth, homeland) which is in heaven, and from it also we earnestly and patiently await [the coming of] the Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [as] Saviour,

²¹ Who will transform and fashion anew the body of our humiliation to conform to and be like the body of His glory and majesty, by exerting that power which enables Him even to subject everything to Himself.

v 25 **We eagerly wait for it with perseverance:** **Perseverance** is "...the attitude of the soldier who in the thick of battle is not dismayed but fights on stoutly whatever the difficulties." (Morris) It's all about trusting that God will be true to His word and will keep His promises.

Conclusion: Remember that trusting God means walking in the Spirit. As long as we continue to walk in the Spirit, depending on and trusting in God, then we will have the right perspective, the eternal perspective; we will be able to understand why we suffer temptation, trials, and persecution. Again, it's only when we are submitted to and led by the Holy Spirit that we will gain the eternal perspective and experience victory in this life.