

# Why Temptations and Trials are Good

Why does God allow temptations and trials to come to you? If you are not tempted and tried beyond what you can bear in your own strength, why would you ever look to a power outside of yourself for help? How many of us look for help when working our job if we feel that we can do it without help? Not very many. We like to think that we can handle things very well by ourselves, thank you very much. It is only when we come to the realization that we can't handle it by ourselves that we look for or call for help. Some of us have to be pretty desperate before we will ask for help.

So how does God get our attention when He wants to save us? When our lives are going smoothly and we are able to handle things on our own, how many of us would look for Him to save us? From what, if everything is going just fine? The only way God can let us know that we need Him is to bring or allow things to come into our lives that we can't handle by ourselves. Some of us are so determined to do things by ourselves that it takes something very traumatic to get us to look for someone to get us through it.

The book of Revelation talks about the Laodiceans. They believe they are rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing. Why would they look to God for anything? God wants to save all of us worse than we want to save ourselves, and when we are feeling no need, how does He get us to see our condition? The thing is, when God brings things into our lives that we can't bear, what do we tend to do? We ask, why? Why are you doing this to me? Or why are you allowing this to happen to me. I thought you loved me. Why would you make me suffer if you love me? A loving God would not do this, right? But, wouldn't a loving God do whatever it took to save you, if He truly loved you? Of course. A truly loving God would not allow us to go through life oblivious to our need and allow us to die forever in our sin. He would do everything in His power to bring us to a realization of our great need and the direction we were headed in.

So, how does God get our attention and cause us to seek Him for help? He brings us trials and temptations that we, in our own strength, are unable to bear. Once we see our need for Him and have allowed Him to be in control of our lives, how does God continue reminding us of our great need and dependence on Him? By bringing (or allowing) trials and temptations to come into our lives – for our good. The difference between the trials and temptations that come our way after we have surrendered our lives to God and are allowing Him to control us, and those that haven't yet done so, is everything.

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as man can bear: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation make also the way of escape, that ye may be able to endure it.” 1 Corinthians 10:13 ASV This is a promise for the born again, but God does not promise us that we will no longer be tempted and tried. In fact, just the opposite is true. He must continually remind us of our need because our human nature so easily tends to go our own way.

So when trials come into your life, thank God ... He is reminding you of your great need of Him.