

## WHEN SUFFERING TESTS OUR FAITH, PART ONE

2 THESSALONIANS 1:4-10; PSALM 73 (ESV)

I. Intense suffering tests our faith in God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

A. His goodness: why would a \_\_\_\_\_ God allow these things to happen to His \_\_\_\_\_?

B. His faithfulness: is God not \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_ to us?

C. A \_\_\_\_\_ response to suffering can give us a wrong view of God that \_\_\_\_\_ away at our faith.

II. God's uses our most \_\_\_\_\_ trials to \_\_\_\_\_ us His goodness and faithfulness.

A. Deep suffering forces us to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ that we might not think about when life goes smoothly.

1. God promises us relief and rest at the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. God promises eternal \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to those who do not know Christ.

3. God has promised to lead us \_\_\_\_\_ suffering into \_\_\_\_\_. In so doing, He teaches us to value \_\_\_\_\_ above all earthly joys.

B. When suffering tests your faith...

1. Look \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to see how God has been growing you all along.
2. Look forward and fix our hopes on our eternal \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the wicked.

III. When suffering tests our faith, we \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ to God's goodness and faithfulness.

A. Seeing God's goodness and faithfulness in the midst of our suffering \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ us.

B. Seeing God's goodness and faithfulness in the midst of our suffering replaces our doubtful \_\_\_\_\_ with faith-filled \_\_\_\_\_.