



The Truth
About
Trouble!
John 16:32-33

Listen to Jesus' Words to His Disciples in John 16:32-33

“A time is coming and in fact has come when each of you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

I have told you these things, so that you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

- I want to focus on a statement Jesus makes that we spend a lifetime trying to avoid: **“In this world you will have trouble.”**
- “Trouble,” is a multifaceted word in scripture
- It can mean distress, sickness, trials, tribulations, problems
- Jesus is THE TRUTH and espouses TRUTH: That which is in accord with the facts or reality
- Jesus says: **YOU Will Have Trouble!**

First, Let's Make Our Peace With Jesus' Implication

#1 Trouble is Promised

- It's inevitable, unavoidable, inescapable and sometimes, unpreventable. Jesus says, you will have it (a Godly promise)
- This promise from Jesus won't make you jump and shout
- As a promise God has made, it will come true (like others He has made, ex. 1John 1:7)
- It began the moment we were born, Job 14:1
- Remember when Job and his wife experienced trouble together? She was ready to remove God from her life because he "*allowed trouble*" to occur; Job 2:9, She asked her husband, "*Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!*"

Job replied in Job 2:10 (N.I.V.): “You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God and not trouble? In all this Job did not sin in what he said.”

- Listen to Peter in 1 Peter 4:12

“Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange (unusual to your position), were happening to you.”

- Peter was a disciple that experienced the trouble that we hope to avoid

Trouble can come from standing up for Jesus when the time comes in your life (Representing Jesus when it's not preferred or impressive in our situations)

Representing the unborn is not a popular position, Jer.1:5

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you!”

Speaking against LGBTQ issues is not a preferred position, Genesis 5:2 (“I don't identify as a man, though my body does!”)

- So the point is, TROUBLE IS PROMISED to the Christian

#2 Trouble is Painful

- Pain is Pain no matter the source
- When Jonah ran from God's will for his life and into a storm, that pain was no worse than the storm Paul faced when He was doing God's will, Acts 27:13-26 (allowed to happen)
- Daniel's anxiety in the lion's den was just as real as Jonah's anxiety in the whale's belly
- The nails that bit into the hands of Jesus on the cross while dying for the sins of the world, were just as painful as those nails who hung the two thieves beside him on the cross
- The mass shootings in Uvalde, Texas and Buffalo, N.Y. were no less painful than King Herod's "infant liquidation" attempt to extinguish the baby Jesus by ordering the killing all male babies under 2 years of age in Bethlehem, Matthew 2:16
- What of the massacre of Galilean worshippers in Luke 13:1?

#3 Trouble Is Puzzling

- Though Job did not sin in what he said in chapter 2, look at his spirit of *“emotional confusion”* in chapter 3:1-3

“Afterward Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his birth. And Job said, “May the day on which I was born perish, As well as the night which said, a boy is conceived.”

- Job 3:11-12 *“Why did I not perish at birth, and die as I came from the womb? Why were there knees to receive me and breasts that I might be nursed?”*
- Job 16:9, *“God assails me and tears me in His anger and gnashes His teeth at me; my opponent fastens on me with his piercing eyes.”* (“God, you have allowed Satan to attack me”)
- Christians, don’t we sometimes say, *“Lord, I’ve been trying to do what’s right. Why did this stuff happen to me?”* “God, you said you care about us” *“Why Uvalde, Texas? Buffalo, N.Y.?”*
“The trouble of losing my child/spouse/health, is too much!”

#4 Trouble is Purposeful

God Has a Purpose in Our Trouble

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

- We overlook the concept expressed here of “KNOWING,” which means that, We are astutely aware of this information.

“And we KNOW that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His son that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.” Romans 8:28-29



A) Our Troubles Can Perfect Us

- For a Gem to become its best it has to be polished with friction, difficulty, stress
*“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **KNOWING** that the trying of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.” James 1:2-3*

Through Our Troubles, We Develop Patience, Experience, Hope

- Romans 5:3,
*“Tribulation produces
patience and...”*
- Our trials can either
tear up our faith or
temper it (strengthen)
- This heat serves to
remove the weak
materials from this
pipe to strengthen it
for efficient usage
- The choice is ours!



B) Our Troubles Allow God to Correct Us!

“It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees. The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.” Psalms 119:71-72

- A popular question in our society is: Why do bad things happen to good people?
- I believe the question itself is faulty (from bad theology)
- **THERE ARE NO GOOD PEOPLE!** (We are all under sin's power)

“As it is written: there is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.” Romans 3:10

Hebrews 12:7-11

“Endure hardships as discipline; God is treating you as His children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”

**As this Baby trusts its
mother with the daily
contents of this bottle**

**So we trust God with
our daily exposure to
trouble**

**How we handle our
trouble is a Trust Issue;
Matt. 26:39**

***“God is faithful; He will
not let you be tempted
beyond what you can
bear. But when you are
tempted, He will also
provide a way out so
that you can endure it.”
1 Corinthians 10:13***



The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

