

TRIALS & TESTS =



GREATER HUMILITY

Trials and Tests = Greater Humility and Yieldedness

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Trials and tests are what I often use to bring you to the point of saying yes to Me. Purgings produce greater humility and yieldedness, and that in itself is the key to all victories--yielding to My will and believing that I know best. (1)

Today's battles are preparing you, they are helping you to mature and become the yielded, open, and ready vessels that I will need to do My will. (2)

I wish to ease your suffering, but with your suffering has come the beauty of your spirit--of My Spirit shining through you. For it has been the breakings, the afflictions, the trials of your past that have made you such a yielded and soft piece of clay in My hands. Because of this, I can use you. I use you mightily. You may feel like you accomplish little, but in My eyes it is much, for you are My lover, My bride who is not ashamed of Me. You are one who loves Me openly, who professes your love for Me, a bride of high esteem. (3)

(David:) So think it not strange concerning the fiery trials, as though some strange thing came upon you, but understand that it's the Lord working in your life to quicken these lessons, to make you moldable and yielded and humble and useful, to hasten the process so that you also will have that closeness, that desperation with the Lord, so that He can mightily use you in soon-coming events. Unless you are broken you will not have this closeness to His voice, the dependency on Him, the total yieldedness that it will take to fight the battles.

So don't be discouraged by the tests and the trials, but hold on! He is making you into the pure gold that will pass through the fires and come out full of faith and trust, as the man or woman of God that you want to be! (4)

(David:) The Lord won't force you to humble yourself & yield & draw closer to Him! The breaking process depends upon you & your yieldedness & willingness to be made willing! So try to take your testings & your temptations without sin & without rebellion, murmuring or bitterness! The Lord promises that He will never give you more than you're able to bear, & that He will always make a way of escape. (1Cor. 10:13.) He'll somehow make it easier for you or at least help you to

bear it. So "harden not your heart" but "cast thy burden upon the Lord, & He shall sustain thee!"--Heb.3:8; Psa.55:22.

Things will be a lot easier for you if you will just accept what the Lord is trying to do in your life, if you will receive the breakings & the chastisements & the lessons, if you don't fight against them, if you'll just seek the Lord & yield to Him. Remember, He loves you, & whatever He does to you, His Own child, He does it in love.--For your good. So for God's sake, & your own sake, "Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God" (1Pet.5:6), & don't get hardened & bitter! Get better & not bitter!--Amen? (5)

Allow Me to work in your life in the way I deem best. Learn to recognize the way that I use things in your life to strengthen your faith, and yield to them. Grow through the tests that come your way. Hold on when you're going through tough times, and let Me strengthen you. Choose to get the most mileage that you can out of whatever battles you face by looking to Me, by hearing from Me, and by fighting, and then receiving the enhanced faith and confidence that I give you once the battle is over. If you make the right decisions, then the battles and tests and trials of life strengthen your faith rather than weaken it. (6)

In each heart there is an especially tender, sensitive sore spot--a place in the heart where trials are more difficult and painful to bear than any others. This is a place where I enter, where I work as the Potter molding the clay, and where I allow My most trusted children to be tested and sorely tried. For if in spite of the great difficulty and battle, one of My soldiers can still yield even that part of his heart which he holds most dearly and which is most sensitive of all; if he can accept that I test and squeeze and even break and shatter it, then I know that he is indeed of the caliber that I need in My avant-garde troops. (7)

"Once upon a time there were two beautiful, smooth, clear, clean rivers that flowed parallel to one another. But with My hand I caused these rivers to intersect, to come together and meet, and to become one. And as they flowed together and grew, behold, they came to the edge of a mountain, and these rivers that once were so smooth and beautiful went tumbling over the edge. It tumbled ever so violently down the mountain, thrashing and beating against the rocks and the boulders. But it was through this very tumbling and thrashing that the water was purified, aerated and cleansed.

"And it became a beautiful waterfall that many could look upon. The pain

inflicted upon this river was the very thing that made it beautiful; and its willingness to be thrashed about and beat against the boulders was the very thing that made it magnificent and drew people's attention to it. This caused them to marvel at the beauty before their eyes. If it were not for the pain and if it were not for the yieldedness to go through this suffering, then this river would just be ordinary, and no one would care to look upon it. But because of this sacrifice and this death to self, it becomes a beautiful masterpiece in My hand, My creation.

"After this time of suffering and purging and thrashing and purifying, behold, what is at the bottom of this beautiful waterfall but a deep and gloriously clear pool of cool refreshing water. These two rivers that have united, and have been purged and broken, have become a beautiful pool of water; and many people come to sit beside the pool, and they dip their hands in the cool water and they are refreshed and they are strengthened and their battles are alleviated. They find strength and encouragement and comfort in this pool that is so deep and cool and clear and precious in My sight. The river has become a vessel, a channel to quench the thirst of many people.

"Lift up your eyes and look to the end of the road, for there is a purpose and a plan, and it is this pool that I am forming. This is My goal, to form of these rivers and of this thrashing waterfall a beautiful pool of refreshing water that many will come to and drink from, and there find succor and comfort and encouragement.

"Therefore, I say, be not weary in well doing. Be not weary with the battles and with the beating upon you and the discomfort. For there is an end in sight, there is a time of rest and reprieve from the battles. Then You will marvel at My hand, and you will appreciate this time of being thrashed about, this time when your yieldedness is being tested. Therefore be not weary. Hold on. Continue to yield and allow thyself to be broken and to be purged and to be cleansed, that you might become that which I have designed.

"For though the rivers are beautiful, and though the waterfall is magnificent and many people look at it and marvel, the end of the road, this beautiful pool, will be the most beautiful. For this is when ye shall come to the end of yourselves, and My plan and My purpose shall then be accomplished, which is to feed and refresh and strengthen and succor and comfort many, yea, I say multitudes. (8)

(Jesus speaking:) Each of My brides has entered into a time of intense battles, and they are all experiencing-to some degree-the heat of the battle and the weights that I have allowed to be placed upon them to make them stronger.

But they are advancing. They are making it through the obstacles that the Enemy puts in front of them to stop their progress, or to cause them to turn back and give up because it's too difficult. The Enemy knows he is going to fail, but he must try anyway.

Those who continue to persevere through these difficulties and who do not turn back, who make it through this time of testing, will be the bright and powerful army that I have spoken of that is going to take the world by storm.

I know it weighs upon your hearts to hear of the many battles that various ones are facing, to hear of the difficulties and the trials and the heartbreaks that many are going through. But I am the One Who allows My brides to go through such difficulties, because I know this is what they really want. Each one wants to be all that they can be for Me. Each one wants to be free of those things that have held them back in the past. Each one wants to give Me their all. And so I put them through these seeming dark days to purge, to purify, and to make them white.

They will have so much more strength to rely upon, as they will have learned how to truly fall upon Me-not just in the difficult moments, but all the time. They will be much more attuned to My whispers and My voice, because they will have learned in the darkness how to cling to My voice each moment. They will have learned how to take on My mind and let Me possess them through relinquishing all their carnal thoughts when they face battles. They will have learned the strength of unity through leaning on others to pull them through. They will have the burning desire in their hearts to reach those that are lost and searching, for I will have turned their thoughts away from themselves and onto others. They will know the meaning of joy and happiness in abundance, for they will be obeying Me and pleasing Me, and I will give this to them in full measure.

The promises that I have poured upon you, My Family, are endless. They are there. All you have to do is pull them down, claim them, hold onto them, and see them work.

My loves have but to pull down the victories that are before them. They have but to hold on and fight a little harder. They have but to cling to Me and have the heavenly vision before their eyes so that nothing can deter them from reaching the final goal.

They are at the point where they're going through the most difficult time of the whole changing process. They are learning new habits, getting rid of old attitudes, realizing and coming to grips with their inadequacy and mistakes, and feeling the monumental weight of the change that is ahead of them. So this is the most difficult time, but once they've overcome, once they've become stronger,

once they've made the changes and have developed new habits and start running at the capacity that they are capable of, they will come into their full glory.

They will feel My power working through them. They will be able to pull down My blessings and ask what they will, and it will be done for them. They will see miracles performed before their eyes. They will see lives transformed, and they themselves will be transformed and made new.

Once they have reached this point, the weights that I allowed them to struggle with and that they have been running with will be taken off and they will soar. They will have made the connection to Me, their Source, and they will be completely Mine, and nothing will stop Me from using them to the full.

This is what is ahead of My brides who persevere, who hold on, who do not give up. This is what is ahead for those who yield to Me and obey Me. I will do mighty things through them and they will know the power of their God. (9)

Afflictions of the Flesh Yield Priceless Gifts

(Jesus speaking:) I know that the difficulties you face with your back being out have been discouraging for you. You see it as a hindrance to the work, a hindrance to doing the things you want to be doing. But through this affliction I've shown you a better way, a more humble way, and you've yielded your spirit to Me. You've accepted this "intolerable compliment" as a gift from My hand, so I've been able to use it to work in your life.

Even though you may not see all the ways it has changed you or it has helped you, I see and others see. They see a more humble you walking around, one who is not so confident and capable in himself, one who is weak in himself. Though it's been hard for you to be like this, it helps to show you how I wish for you to be always. For it is through humility and weakness that I can work through you and use you to accomplish My will.

I have blessed you with this affliction. I've been teaching you and showing you the better way through this affliction and through all you've been through in the last few months--showing you that through your weakness I will be able to be made strong. It's a manifestation in the flesh of what I'm doing in the spirit. It has forced you to slow down, it has humbled you, and through your yieldedness I've been able to use it in your life.

Take care to not lose the lessons or the humility and dependence on Me that you've gained through this experience. The man that I need for your tasks ahead will be a new man--not one who operates in his old mindset or weaknesses, but one who is dependent on Me, one who cares about My plan and

My will above his own, one who is willing to seek Me about each facet of this plan, one who is not sure of himself or his abilities and talents, but who humbly acknowledges that he doesn't know enough to be able to accomplish the task in front of him, and who is willing to ask others for their help and input and to ask Me most of all. And this is the man that I see before Me now.

It's been at the expense of your pride and self-assurance, but it's been worth it, for the fruits of the Spirit it has borne in your life have been beautiful and have made you a better, more useful man. (10)

Yes, wonderful graces grow from affliction which others are able to see--the gifts of greater compassion for others, and tenderness, sympathy and longsuffering. But I work an even greater work through affliction, below the surface and unseen by the eyes of man, within the heart and spirit of each one of My brides who yields and surrenders to the warm, soft touch of affliction. (11)

You don't see all of the reasons why you're afflicted in such a monumental way, but it's because of your afflictions that you have such great faith. Your afflictions are what have kept you soft, warm, moldable, trusting and broken.

Some want these priceless gifts, but they're not willing to pay the price that goes with them. Some want the gifts of humility, desperation, dependence on the Lord, yieldedness, faith and trust and utter acceptance, but they aren't willing to go through the battles. (12)

I see deeply into your heart, more clearly than any other person ever can or will. I know the depths of your love for Me and the great commitment and the sacrifices that you've made because of this immeasurable love. You've been a willing and yielded vessel of My love, and through your broken body I am able to pour forth My Spirit and love to others in great measure. You've been a sample to many of dedication, of perseverance, and of faith--faith that trusts in spite of circumstances, faith that proclaims in word and deed, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him." (13)

"It is in the times of affliction--affliction of flesh, affliction of spirit, affliction of mind, affliction of heart, affliction of soul--that I mold thee, and I make thee, and I strengthen thee. And though thou dost not come out glorious and shiny, thou comest out useful, thou comest out humble, and thou comest out knowing

Me, trusting Me.

"Having gone through these afflictions, and having cried out unto Me, and having sought My Word for thy solace, thou hast learned the most valuable lesson--the lesson that I am there, that My Spirit will speak unto thee, that My Words will comfort thee, and that I am thy Savior, thy God, thy Friend, thy Comfort, thy Lover, thy Care-Giver!

"For the path of true greatness is the path that goeth through Me. And I cannot make thee great until thou hast come unto Me with all of thine heart, and with all of thy soul, and all of thy mind, and all of thy strength. For these things that thou hast passed through are not defeat, they are stepping stones to glory.--Not the glory of man, but the glory of God.--The glory of humility, the glory of utter dependence upon Me, the glory of My Spirit working through the humble heart, through the trusting soul, through the yielded mind, through the loving spirit.

"So, My little lamb, and all My little lambs, know and understand that the things that thou dost suffer, the trials that thou art faced with, the burdens that thou dost bear, the testing and the purging, the trying, the heartache and heartbreak, the pressure, the squeezing, the tests and the trials, do not take thee away. They are not a sign of My displeasure. They are not meant to show that I am not there. They are tokens of My Love. They are the steps that thou must go through to come unto Me.

"But know that I am always there. In the deepest and in the darkest experiences, and in the greatest despair, I am there. Only turn and face Me and trust Me, even when all else seems so dark. Trust Me, for I take thee through this darkness that I may bring thee out into My glorious light--the light of My Love, the light of My truth, the light of My strength and the light of My power. Thou canst not be trusted with these things until thou hast proven that thou wilt trust Me.

"For the greatness that God giveth cometh about from the testings and the trials and the trusting. And the glory and the strength and the power that thou seekest cometh not in the way that thou wouldest think. It cometh not in the paths of glory as with man, it cometh through the path of God, the lowly path, the humble path.

"So in thy time of trial and affliction, look unto Me. Call out unto Me! Cling to My Words! Grasp them, eat them, hold on to them, for they are truth. And for thee to be the man or the woman of God that I would have thee to be, thou must have the understanding that My Word is truth and power and strength and might. It is My Word that saves thee and strengthens thee. It is My Word that

encompasses thee about with protection. It is My Word that gives unto thee the love that thou dost seek. It is My Word that doeth all of these things. Thou must be connected unto Me, and the root of that connection is My Word.

"Thou must trust. Thou must trust My Word, and in trusting My Word, thou art trusting Me. When I say in My Word I am there, then know that I am there! When I say in My Word I am thy comfort, then know that I am thy comfort. When I say in My Word it shall pass, then know that it shall pass. When I say in My Word I shall supply, then know that I shall supply. For My Word is truth! My Word is life! My Word is Love! My Word is Me." (14)

But above all things know this, that in My hands I have precious, precious gifts to give you!--Gifts of Love and forgiveness and mercy and healing. Draw nigh to Me, call out to Me, love Me, seek Me, desire Me, and I will be with you to fill every need, to answer every question, to heal every wound, to strengthen every broken heart. Ye will find that through this deep, dark experience we will gain a love relationship that is of much, much more value. Ye will know that this time of suffering and pain hath been a small, small sacrifice in comparison to the great joy that we will feel in our love relationship, as this will cause you to draw closer to Me, to know Me as ye have never known Me before, to love Me as ye have never loved Me before, to feel My mercy, My tenderness and My forgiveness as ye have never felt it before.

So this seeming defeat in your eyes will one day be looked upon as a blessing. This breaking process will result in new creatures, new vessels, yielded, malleable in My hands, that will pour forth the waters of life in great, great abundance. Your heart will overflow with thanksgiving for My Love and for My forgiveness, and it will drive you, it will compel you to share this Love with others. In this way ye will be much, much more valuable vessels in My hands, much more useful tools. Although ye cannot see it now, I am creating special instruments which will be used of Me in a very unique, very effective, very fruitful way. Through this breaking ye will be remade and ye will become new creatures in My hands. (15)

- (1) Prophecy Vitamins, Part 4 #3613
- (2) The Art of War, Part 1 #3532:77
- (3) The Weakness Revolution Part 3 #3219:158
- (4) Help From Heaven! #3056:252,253
- (5) Bitterness! #2672:50,51
- (11) Comfort in Affliction, Part 2 #3396:14
- (12) Comfort in Affliction, Part 2 #3396:87,88
- (13) Comfort in Affliction, Part 1 #3355:91
- (14) Personal Letters! No.6 #3004:41-48
- (15) God's Healing Touch for Broken Hearts and Bodies! #3007:18,19
- (6) Greater Faith, Part 1 #3628:45
- (7) The Blessings of Loneliness! #3216:172
- (8) The Law of Love and Senior Teens! #3012:46-51
- (9) Promises of the Future #3573:129-139
- (10) Comfort in Affliction, Part 3 #3417:61-65