

Hebrews 12:4-5 (HCS)

In struggling against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. [5] And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons: My son, do not take the Lord's discipline lightly or faint when you are reproved by Him,

Hebrews 12:6-7 (HCS)

[6] for the Lord disciplines the one He loves and punishes every son He receives. [7] Endure suffering as discipline: God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline?

What Goes Around Comes Around

Genesis 29:14-30

Galatians 6:7-9 (NIV)

Do not be deceived:

God cannot be MOCKED.

A man REAPS what he SOWS.

God cannot be MOCKED -
You Cannot make a FOOL of GOD

Hebrews 12:5-6 (NLT)

And have you forgotten the encouraging words God spoke to you as his children?

He said, “**My child, don’t make light of the LORD’s DISCIPLINE**, and don’t give up when he **CORRECTS** you. [6] For the **LORD DISCIPLINES** those he loves, and **HE PUNISHES** each one he **accepts as his child.**”

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

In this you greatly rejoice, though now **for a little while you may have had to**

SUFFER GRIEF in ALL kinds of TRIALS. [7] These have come so that your **FAITH** - of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though **refined by fire** may be **PROVED GENUINE** and **may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.**

TRIALS Come So THAT

- our Faith may be **REFINED**
- our Faith may be Proved **GENUINE**
- our Faith may **RESULT** in **HONOR**
to Jesus

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers,
whenever you face trials of many kinds, [3]

because you know that **the testing of
your faith DEVELOPS perseverance.**

[4] **Perseverance** must finish its work
so that you may be **MATURE** and
COMPLETE, not lacking anything.

TESTING of OUR FAITH

➤ develops **PERSEVERANCE**

➤ perseverance develops **MATURITY**

The **ultimate** goal in **ANY**
hardship or **suffering** we face
is that **Jesus Christ** would be
GLORIFIED
by the **WAY** we Handle it.

WHY does God Allow - Cause us to SUFFER?

- to **DISCIPLINE** us
- to **SHAPE** and Mold us
- to help us learn **DEPENDENCE**
- to make us Living Examples of His **GRACE**

“God is a Master artist and there are aspects of your life and character - **good, quality things** - that He wants others to notice. So without using blatant tricks or obvious gimmicks, **God brings the cool, dark contrast of suffering into your life.** That contrast, laid up against **the golden character of Christ Jesus IN you** - will draw attention to HIM.

Light **AGAINST** darkness. Beauty **AGAINST** affliction. Joy **AGAINST** sorrow. A sweet patient spirit **AGAINST** pain and disappointment. These are major contrasts that have a way of attracting attention. **You are the canvas** on which He paints glorious truths, sharing beauty, and inspiring others. **So that people might see HIM.”**

Joni Erickson