

That's a picture of the Christian life. Those who have trusted Jesus as Saviour are on a journey filled with difficulties, setbacks, tragedies, and obstacles. Trouble always seems to be present or just around the corner. Yet we know that an indescribably great destination is in our future (1 Peter 1:4). And sometimes the assurance of what's reserved for us in heaven is all that keeps us going.

Peter understood. He said that as we make our way through life, we will suffer grief as a result of our troubles. Yet we can actually rejoice through our difficulties, because God has reserved something special for us at the end of the journey.

Troubled today? Look ahead. Heaven will be worth the trip.

*It will be worth it all when we see Jesus,
Life's trials will seem so small when we see Christ;
One glimpse of His dear face all sorrow will erase,
So bravely run the race till we see Christ. —Rusthoi*

The gains of heaven will more than compensate us for the losses of earth.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Reserved For You

Have you ever taken one of *those* holidays? You planned to arrive at a distant location where you knew you'd have a great time, but on the way you had so many travelling difficulties that you wondered if the journey was worth it.

Car problems. Traffic delays. Getting lost. Sick kids. Irritable fellow travellers. You knew the destination would be great, but the trip was anything but smooth. Yet you kept pressing on because you knew it would be worth the trouble.





I Peter: Overcoming Suffering The Acid Test

In 1 Peter 1:6-7 there are 7 helpful and revealing facts about trials:

1. Trials are

_____, verses 1-6

(Psalms 30:5) "...; Weeping may endure for a night, But joy comes in the morning."

(2 Corinthians 4:17) "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,"

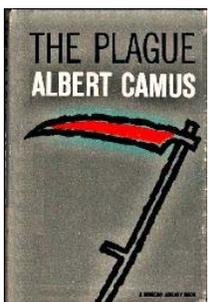
(John 14:1-3) ""Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. {2} "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. {3} "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."



2. Trials are _____, verses 6, 5:10



3. Trials do _____, verse 6



(1 Thessalonians 4:13) "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope."

4. Trials are _____ made, verse 6

(Isaiah 40:31) "But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew



their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."

5. Trials _____ faith, verse 7



(1 Corinthians 10:13) "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

6. Trials _____ the believer, verse 7

(Job 23:10) "But He knows the way that I take; When He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold."

7. Trials _____ God _____, verse 7

(Romans 2:6-7) "who "will render to each one according to his deeds": {7} eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;"

(Romans 2:10) "but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."

(1 Peter 1:7) "... They will show that you will be given praise and honor and glory when Jesus Christ returns. [paraphrase]

(1 Peter 1:7) "...Your faith is more precious than gold, and by passing the test, it gives praise, glory, and honor to God... [paraphrase]