

**LOVE**  
**Without Hypocrisy**  
 (in the book of Romans)

**15 – Patient in Tribulation (2)**  
**> About the tribulation <**

**According to Job ...**

... people are *born to trouble*,  
 as surely as the sparks fly upward.  
Job 5:7(NET)

**According to Moses ...**

Our years are seventy,  
 or even eighty if we are healthy;  
 but even our best years are marked by *trouble*  
 and *sorrow*.  
 Yes, they pass quickly, and we fly away.  
Psalm 90:10 (ULB)

**The WORLD's response to those verses ...**

"It's all *negative*...  
 don't pay attention to it!"

**GOD's response to those verses ...**

"It's all *truthful*...  
 you had better pay attention to it!"

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**WHO'S VIEW ARE YOU GOING TO ACCEPT?**



**Wake-up call...**

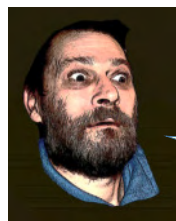
**IT'S TIME  
 TO FACE  
 REALITY!**

**It's time you learned these two FACTS:**

**FACT #1:**  
**Troubles entered this world  
 when the human race chose to sin.**

**FACT #2:**  
**Troubles won't leave this world  
 until Jesus returns.**

People in the past had troubles  
People in the future will have troubles



★ Why are we so surprised when we ★  
have troubles?

DON'T GIVE ME TROUBLES...  
I DON'T DESERVE THEM!



The TROUBLE is not our troubles...

It's our attitude.

We need to get our attitude adjusted!



ADJUSTMENT  
STARTS HERE

We who follow Jesus won't have the "stupid" troubles that unsaved people bring to themselves.



... the wicked have their fill of trouble. ... Misfortune pursues the sinner ... the wicked are brought down by calamity.

Proverbs 12:21b, 13:21a, 24:16b (NIV)

AND CONTINUES HERE:

We will have the "normal" troubles of life that all people have.

... people are born to trouble, ...

Job 5:7a (NET)

Time and chance happen to all.

Ecclesiastes 9:11b (DHT)



IN ADDITION:

People of the world will add to our troubles... because they do not love Jesus.

"...the world hates you."  
"In the world you'll have trouble. But cheer up! I have overcome the world."

John 15:19b; 16:33b (GW)



AT THE PRESENT TIME:

We must apply our theme verse.

Be ... patient in affliction ...

Romans 12:12 (NIV)





**IN THE FUTURE:**

We will have victory over our trials!

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.  
Rom 8:37 (ESV)

[God] will remove all of [our] sorrows, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. For the old world and its evils are gone forever."  
Rev. 21:4 (NLT)

**IN THE END:** → Those who caused our trials... their trials will have just begun.



There will be trouble and distress for every human being who does evil...  
Romans 2:9a (NIV)

For it is right for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ...  
2 Thessalonians 1:6 (NET)




**But wait, there's more!**

**1** God uses our trials to produce good things!

... we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.  
Romans 5:2b-5 (HCSB)

**2** Our trials are "light and momentary," compared to what God has in store for us!

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.  
2 Cor. 4:16-18 (NIV)



**And so, we can have joy even during trials!**



# Your Mission...

**"Be ... patient in affliction ..."**

**Romans 12:12b**

**AFFLICTION** - tribulation, suffering, hardship, trouble, etc.

**PATIENCE** - perseverance, endurance, steadfastness, etc.

## ***THE TROUBLES OF LIFE (CONTINUED)***

**We (Jesus' followers) will have troubles.**

- It's part of following Jesus (Acts 14:22; Revelation 1:9); we are destined for them (1 Thessalonians 3:3-4).
- There are many examples of godly people having trials - Paul (Acts 20:23; 2 Corinthians 1:8; 2:4; 4:8; 7:5); other Christians (Acts 11:19); also many Old Testament examples (Hebrews 11:35b-38).
- We can *choose* to endure trials for the good of others - (Ephesians 3:13; Colossians 1:24 - it's like sharing in *Christ's* afflictions).
- In the end times, troubles will increase for *both* saved (Matthew 24:9 - from persecution) and unsaved (Matthew 24:21- God punishing them). Our job is to remain steadfast in Christ and to proclaim the good news (Matthew 24:13-14)!
- Jesus warns us about trials, not so that we can panic, but so that we can have peace (John 16:33; also Revelation 2:10)! Our ultimate victory over them is guaranteed by what Jesus has *already* accomplished!

**Some troubles are common to all people; some occur when people sin. But other troubles are experienced by saved people, because the devil and his followers will make sure they occur.**

**Responding to trials.**

- We are to patiently endure the trials (Romans 12:12b); aware that God will use them to strengthen us (Romans 5:3-5); we should make it our goal to endure in a way that is commendable (2 Corinthians 6:4-5).
- Fake "Christians" will tend to abandon the faith (Mark 4:17).
- We can be encouraged by Jesus/God (John 16:33; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4a); by other Christians (2 Corinthians 1:4b-7; 1 Thessalonians 3:7); and by an awareness that nothing can separate us from Jesus' love (Romans 8:35-39).
- When we have trials, our response can encourage others - as they see us following Jesus and patiently enduring the trials (1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2 Thessalonians 1:4); and as we continue (even during our trials) to show love to others (example - by helping them, 2 Corinthians 8:1-5).
- When *others* have trials, we can encourage them by choosing to share in their troubles (Philippians 4:14; Hebrews 10:33) and by helping them in their troubles (James 1:27).

**Having a future focus.**

- Jesus knows when we suffer for him. He will reward us (2 Corinthians 4:17; Revelation 2:9-10; 7:14-17); and will pay back those who caused our troubles (2 Thessalonians 1:6-7; Romans 2:9).