

Suffering's Silver Lining

I Peter 1:6-9

#1 - My Focus During Trials Can Produce Joy

I've been told, "Attitude is everything." Winston Churchill once said: "Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference."

- ***Focus On The Benefits Of My Salvation, vs. 6a.*** Peter says in verse six, "In ***this*** you greatly rejoice even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials." The "this" he was referring to was what was just pointed out in the previous verses - the benefits of our salvation.
- ***Focus On My Relationship With Jesus Christ, vs. 8.*** Peter says that if we focus on the relationship we have with Jesus, even though we have not seen him, we love and believe in Him, it will produce unspeakable joy.
- ***Focus On The Future Completion Of My Salvation, vs. 9.*** Peter says my focus should also be on the ultimate salvation of my soul. Reminiscent of vs. 5, we are reminded that God will faithfully complete our soul's salvation and that helps us focus on something positive ahead, beyond the moment's suffering.

#2 - Understand The Purposes Of My Trials - The Silver Lining

- ***Trials are temporary, vs. 6b.*** Temporary is comparison to eternity.
- ***Trials are necessary, vs. 6c.*** Here Peter hints at the divine intention "if necessary." Later in this letter (4:19) he comes right out and says believers suffer according to the will of God.
- ***Trials come in all shapes and sizes, vs. 6d.***
- ***Trials are valuable,*** though brought about through fire, will end in good things (praise, glory and honor) vs. 7. Praise, glory and honor are given to those who endure suffering here in this life.