



**Responding Correctly to Circumstances
On Your Island of Patmos**
Keeping in the Spirit

TRUTH

**CONDITIONS ARE ALWAYS CHANGING,
THEREFORE I MUST NOT BE DEPENDENT UPON CIRCUMSTANCES**

**GOD'S
PROVIDENCE**

Psalm 33:10-11 The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations.

Providence is defined theologically as "the unceasing activity of the Creator whereby, in overflowing bounty and good will, He upholds His creatures in ordered existence, guides and governs all events, circumstances, and free acts of angels and men and directs everything to its appointed goal, for His own glory.

PASSAGES AFFIRMING THE TRUTH OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE

Genesis 20:6 And God said to him in a dream, "Yes, I know that you did this in the integrity of your heart. For I also withheld you from sinning against Me; therefore I did not let you touch her.

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

Exodus 3:21 And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed.

Exodus 8:22 And in that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there, in order that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the land.

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

Daniel 4:34-35 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

Acts 16:6-7 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

TRUTH

GOD IS CONCERNED ABOUT ME AS MY FATHER AND NOTHING HAPPENS TO ME APART FROM GOD.

GOD'S LOVE

Psalm 139:1-3. 13. 15 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. My frame was not hidden from You.

DETAILED INVOLVEMENT WITH MY LIFE

Psalm 139:15-16 . . . when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

TRUTH

**GOD'S WILL AND GOD'S WAYS ARE ALWAYS A MYSTERY
BUT I KNOW WHATEVER HE WILLS OR PERMITS IS OF NECESSITY FOR MY GOOD.**

I Peter 1:6-9 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith; the salvation of your souls.

GOD'S WISDOM

If need be ... in other words, God has appointed it.

II Corinthians 4:11, 15 For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

**GOD'S WILL
GOD'S PURPOSE**

*II Corinthians 4:17-18 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, **while** we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

**OUR
PERSPECTIVE**

**WHAT MATTERS SUPREME AND VITALLY IS MY SOUL AND MY RELATION.
(1 THESSALONIANS 5:23; PHILIPPIANS 3:10)**

Luke 21:19 By your patience possess your souls.

GOD'S CONCERN

John 12: 25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Hebrews 10: 39 But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

I Peter 1:9 receiving the end of your faith; the salvation of your souls.

TRUTH

**I MUST REGARD CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS NOT IN AND OF THEMSELVES,
BUT AS PART OF GOD'S DEALING WITH ME TO FINAL PERFECTION.**

Hebrews 12:5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him."

**DESPISE: CAST
OFF; REFUSE TO
LOOK AT**

Hebrews 12:6-7. 9-10 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives. If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened' us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

**DISCOURAGED:
WRONG
REACTION**

Hebrews 12:11. 15-16 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. Looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.

**TRAINED:
AFTERWARDS
RECEIVE
PEACEABLE FRUIT
OF RIGHTEOUS-
NESS**

And Finally...

**WHATEVER MY CONDITIONS MAY BE AT THIS MOMENT ARE ONLY TEMPORARY,
THEY ARE ONLY PASSING, AND THEY CAN NEVER ROB ME OF MY JOY AND THE
GLORY THAT ULTIMATELY AWAITS ME.**

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Galatians 6:7-9

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. 1 Peter 5:10

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES FROM THOMPSON CHAIN REFERENCE BIBLE

Hearing

SPIRITUAL OF BELIEVERS

Proverbs 8:34 Blessed is the man who listens to me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at the posts of my doors.

Proverbs 15:31 The ear that hears the rebukes of life Will abide among the wise.

Ecclesiastes 5:1 Walk prudently when you go to the house of God; and draw near to hear rather than to give the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they do evil.

Luke 8:15 But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

James 1:19 So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

CARELESS, CHARACTERISTICS OF

Sentimentality

Ezekiel 33:32 Indeed you are to them as a very lovely song of one who has a pleasant voice and can play well on an instrument; for they hear your words, but they do not do them.

Disobedience

Matthew 7:26 But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

Shallowness

Matthew 13:19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

Hardness

Luke 16:31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.'"

Forgetfulness

James 1:23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror.

James 1:24 For he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

Vision, Spiritual

GENERAL REFERENCES TO

Given in Answer to Prayer

II Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Afflictions Prepare for

Job 42:5 I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

Heart Purity Essential to

Matthew 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart. For they shall see God.

Believers Alone Possess

John 14:19 A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also.

The Holy Spirit the Author of

John 16:14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

John 16:15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

Uses the Telescope of Faith

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Seeing God

Genesis 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved."

Exodus 24:10 ... and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens In its clarity

Judges 13:22 And Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, because we have seen God!"

Job 42:5 I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

Psalms 141:8 But my eyes are upon You, O GOD the lord; In You I take refuge; Do not leave my soul destitute.

Isaiah 6:5 So I said: 'Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.'

Isaiah 33:17 Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; they will see the land that is very far off. John 14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Eyes Opened

Genesis 21:19 Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the skin with water, and gave the lad a drink.

Numbers 22:31 Then the LORD opened Salaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the LORD standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face.

II Kings 6:17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Luke 24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight

Looking to God

FOR INSPIRATION AND HELP

Psalms 34:5 They looked to Him and were radiant, And their faces were not ashamed.

Psalms 123:1 Unto You I lift up my eyes, O You who dwell in the heavens.

John 11:41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.

John 17:1 Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You.

Acts 1:10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel.

Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.