**The Good from the Bad – Faithfulness in times of trials**

Ps. 44: 17 – 18

**Review of the principles of the good from the bad**

1. We know that God brings good from the bad – Rom 8:28
2. Believer’s can live with the mind set on the Spirit – Rom 8:6
3. Believer’s must wait on the Lord – Ps 27:14
4. Believer’s must rest in the Lord – Ps. 116: 7
5. Believer’s can gain new strength – Isa. 40:31
6. Believer’s need endurance – Heb. 10:36
7. Believer’s must remember that Jesus Christ is risen – 2Tim. 2: 8
8. Believer’s can live in contentment in all life circumstances – Phil 4:11
9. Believer’s can live in confident hope in all life circumstances – Rom. 5: 3-5
10. Believer’s faith is tested by trials to show that it is genuine – 1 Pet. 1: 7
11. Believer’s must live by faith to please God – Heb 11:6

12. Believer’s justifying faith protects them in overcoming the devil

**Focal Truth: Those who live by faith are faithful to God in times of trial**

* What does it take to get you to give up and stop following God?
* These days have been times of distress, fear, death, loss, inconvenience and change
* Most see only the crisis they don’t see God’s hand at work or hear His voice calling

Ps. 44 – A Psalm of faithfulness to God in severe trials

**Observations**

1. The faithful always remember the God who saved them – 44:17

*All this has come on us but we have not forgotten you…*

1. Severe trials had come on God’s people – you have rejected & brought dishonor on us – 9, all day long my dishonor is before me - 15
2. The faithful remembered God in their times of terrible trial – we have not forgotten you

**Remember Jesus Christ risen from the dead, do this in remembrance of me**

1. Ps. 78: 7 – the faithful are reminded they should put their confidence in God & not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments – **(trust, remember & obey)**

d. Ps. 119: 61 – the cords of the wicked encircle me, but I have not forgotten your law

1. The faithful sincerely keep their agreement with the God who saved them – 44:17

*We have not dealt falsely with your covenant…*

1. Ex 19: 8 – The people said all that the Lord has said we will do
2. Jos 1:16 - all that you have commanded us we will do and wherever you send us we will go
3. The faithful keep their commitment to God: **trust, remember & obey**
4. The faithful don’t turn back from following the God who saved them – 44:18

*Our heart has not turned back…* a. Israel turned back in unbelief when God brought them to the promise land

1. Ps. 78:57 – they turned back…
2. Feared the giants, walled cities, & the weapons of the enemy distracted them- they forgot all that God had done for them, wanted to go back to Egypt, they broke their agreement to obey go into the promise land

4. The faithful keep following God’s way – 44:18

*Our steps have not deviated from Your way…*

1. Job 23:11 – my foot has held to His path, I have kept His way and not turned aside
2. Ps 119:157 – many are my persecutors and my adversaries, yet I do not turn aside from your testimonies
3. Deut. 17:16 – he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor shall he cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses since the Lord has said to you, You shall never again return that way

**When it gets hard what makes you quit believing God, following Jesus & obeying Him!**

**Things to remember**

1. The faithful are few when trials come – most become discouraged or go to unbelief
2. The faithful remain faithful to God regardless of discouragements
3. The faithful are assured that all trials & afflictions will never harm them only bless them – You meant it for evil but God meant it for good!
4. The faithful know that Jesus Christ gives mercy to help in time of need – come to the throne of grace that you might find mercy to help in time of need
5. The faithful know that all the trials in this life will never rob them of their spiritual treasure – God’s presence, union with Christ, fellowship with Christ, peace that passes understanding
6. The faithful know that God delivers from troubles with troubles. – God delivers His people from spiritual afflictions by temporary trials. These trials destroy false security, pride, formalism, dead – heartedness, lukewarmness, and hypocrisy.

**Daily Use**

Faithfulness is strengthen when we remember the blessings of walking with God

Faithfulness is strengthened when we walk by faith

Faithfulness is strengthen as we love God

Faithfulness is strengthen as we see the faithfulness of others

Faithfulness is strengthened when we remember the faithfulness of the Lord Jesus Christ

Heb. 3:2 – He was faithful to Him who appointed Him