April 22, 2020

**The Good from the Bad – Faith in God (Genuine Faith)**

1 Peter 1:6-9

***5****who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.****6****In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials,****7****so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;****8****and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,****9****obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.*

**FOCAL TRUTH:** Trials test the genuineness of our faith.

Do you believe Jesus is able? (Matt 9:28); The just live by FAITH…

**OBSERVATIONS:**

1. **Genuine faith provides God’s permanent protection till we get to heaven. (1 Peter 1:5)**

* It doesn’t matter whether I live or die, I’m protected by God (John 17:12)

1. **Genuine faith is tested by the fires of trials. (1 Peter 1:7)**

* Proof of faith – Testing; Don’t live in fear and dread, strengthen your faith. Actions of genuine faith are real…rest, love, & trust in God

1. **Genuine faith will be praised by God when we get to heaven (1 Peter 1:7)**

* God will praise you when you get to heaven– “Well done faithful servant!”
* (2 Corinthians 5:10) *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. – Give an account…*
* (2 Corinthians 4:17) *For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,* – Worldly trials are momentary and short, look to heaven and our eternity. We have believer’s eternal blessings when we have genuine faith!

Genuine Faith is faithful faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in all circumstances.

* Put everything/everybody in your life in God’s hands!

1. **Genuine faith’s reward is eternal salvation. (1 Peter 1:8)**

* SAVED, SAVED, SAVED (Romans 6:22) *But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.*

**DAILY USE:**

1. Are you trusting God today or living in unbelief?
2. The trials of our times are testing the strength of our faith
3. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not lean on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path.

(Proverbs 3:5-6)