Trouble in Paradise

How to live in the midst of trouble

Nace Lanier, Teacher March 16, 2008

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When in trouble, hold to God's promises and expect His provision.

There will be trouble.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart!

I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:34

The Gibeonites then sent word to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal: "Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us, because all the Amorite kings from the hill country have joined forces against us."



Reflective obedience guides us through living between the victory and the spoils.

Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

Joshua 9:15 NIV

The cost of obedience

So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men.

Joshua 10:7 ESV



When in trouble, hold to God's promises and expect His provision.

Take hold of the promises in His word.

The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you."

Joshua 10:10



Take hold of the promises in His word.

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7



Do you trust Him?

God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

Numbers 23:19

We are active because of God's promises not in spite of them.

After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise.

Joshua 10:9



When in trouble, hold to God's promises and expect His provision.

God provides in power, always has always will.

Israel loses to Ai without God and wins with Him.

The mighty walls of Jericho literally fall in.

The Jordan River parted at the feet of the entire nation.



God works through natural means:

The LORD threw them into confusion before Israel, who defeated them in a great victory at Gibeon. Joshua 10:10a

the LORD hurled large hailstones down on them from the sky, and more of them died from the hailstones than were killed by the swords of the Israelites. Joshua 10:11b

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God works through supernatural means:

On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: "O sun, stand still over Gibeon, O moon, over the Valley of Aijalon." So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day.

Joshua 10:12,13 ESV



God is not dead. He is alive and active.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. John 15:7



Are you living in the midst of trouble?

Hold on to today's words and dare to ask for Him to provide... even supernaturally.

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There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a man. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!

Joshua 10:14



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John 16:33 NIV

