

How to Deal with Disappointments

Letdowns from people in the midst of faithfulness from God 2 Timothy 4:16–18 Chris Mueller 3-31-2019

Introduction:

16 At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them. **17** But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth. **18** The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen

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

The secret to overcoming disappointment is to rest in the Lord's current providence, and hope in the Lord's future promise.

#1 God's past permitting Disappointments 16

Don't focus on _____ or circumstances

16 At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them.

2 Corinthians 10:10 his personal presence is unimpressive and his speech contemptible

Genesis 50:20 You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.

#2 God's present purposes for Disappointments 17

Trust in God's providential _____

17 But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.

Matthew 28:20 ...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Hebrews 13:5b ...I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.

1st You can _____ on God's presence and strength

17a *But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me*

Psalm 139:8 *If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea.*

Daniel 3:17 *"If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."*

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all things through Him who STRENGTHENS me.*

Acts 9:22 *But Saul kept INCREASING IN STRENGTH and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this Jesus is the Christ.*

Ephesians 6:10 *Finally, BE STRONG in the Lord and in the strength of His might.*

2nd You can _____ in God to accomplish His purposes

17b *so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear*

3rd You can _____ on God to be furthering His will

17c *and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.*

Psalm 115:3 *But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.*

#3 God's future removing Disappointments 18

Hope in God's future _____

18 *The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen*

1st You will be _____ from all evil actions against you

18a *The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed*

2nd You can have _____ of a future home under God's rule

18b *and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom*

2 Corinthians 5:8 *...to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.*

3rd You will want to give God all the _____

18c *to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen*

Romans 8:28 *...to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.*

The secret to overcoming disappointment is to rest in the Lord's current providence, and hope in the Lord's future promise.

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. How do those without Christ react to great disappointment? How should believers be different?
2. What are some of the KEYS to responding biblically to great trial and difficult disappointments?
3. Describe how Paul reacted to his disappointment when no one stood with him during his trial.
4. What are some key passages to depend upon when you are facing a big disappointment?
5. What sins do you need to repent of and what dependent steps do you need to take in order to respond better to disappointment?
6. How can the body of Christ be a help to its individual Christians to glorify God in great trial and disappointments?
7. How can you currently bring God glory through your current trial?

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