



CHRIST
REFORMED BAPTIST
CHURCH

Biblical Preaching & Reverent Worship
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Despise Not God's Discipline

Heb.12:5-6

‘Study to show thyself approved unto God...’ – 2 Timothy 2:15
The importance of reading and learning God's word is a vital part of both growing and also experiencing the blessing of belonging to God the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ.

This truth is one of the purposes why we wish to offer you these sermon notes which are to be used while listening to the sermon.

If you have any further questions relating to the sermon, sermon notes or would like to learn more about the ministry of Christ Reformed Baptist Church, please do not hesitate to contact

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Roadmap of where we have been and where we are going:

Enduring Faith Defined (11:1) Exemplified (11:2-40), and finally Commanded (12:1-26).

INTRODUCTION

Today we will consider the relationship between OUR SUFFERING & THE LORDS DISCIPLINE.

HOW THEN ARE WE GOING TO CONSIDER TODAY'S TEXT?

1) Context – The placement of the Lord's Disciplining (Suffering)

- (a) *'ye have forgotten'* Often times suffering causes spiritual Amnesia.
- (b) *'the exhortation'* The remedy was in their hearts & hands all along.
- (c) *'as unto children'* Suffering & God's disciplining are never a sign of our Heavenly Father's wrath, rather of Fatherly love.

2) The OT exhortation itself ~ the lesson:

- (a) *'the exhortation'* Prov.3:11-12 considered.
- (b) Author of the *'chastening, discipline'* confirmed.
- (c) What is meant by *'chastening, discipline'* ?

3) Concluding Observations:

- (a) Applied wrongly.
- (b) Applied correctly.

I. CONTEXT – The placement of the Lord's Disciplining - 'Suffering'

Q: How could they have forgotten such an important truth...how could they have succumbed to a state of spiritual amnesia?

A: The already-not yet reality of the Christian experience. Already Converted, yet not Consummated.

1. Fosters crippling self-pity and self-occupation. ~Elijah 1 Kings 19:4-15

2. Creates tension between saving faith & sinful/hurtful experiences ~ Asaph Ps.73

“*exhortation*” Strong’s G3874 - παράκλησις *paráklēsis*: 1. a calling near, summons, (esp. for help) 2. [imploration], supplication, entreaty.

➤ **The OT exhortation itself ~ the lesson:**

(A) Prov.3:11-12 “My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: 12For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.”

(B) Author of the ‘chastening and discipline’ confirmed.

v.5 “...discipline ‘*of the Lord*’ (Greek) *masculine noun* – meaning to whom a person or thing belongs, about which he has power of deciding.

v.5 “are rebuked *of him*” of *-preposition*, meaning by or under. Him - *pronoun*, meaning himself.

v.6 “*he (Lord) disciplines...*” *disciplines- verb*, meaning to train a child.

v.7 “God *dealth* with you...” *dealth-verb*, meaning to lead to.

- If we, by God’s help, embrace the truth of the Lord’s ultimate authorship of all our sufferings and trials, we will take the first step in obeying what our text demands “*despise not the Lord’s chastening*”.
- This truth is also intended by our Loving Father to help us avoid certain emotionally and spiritually harmful places as His children:
 1. Autonomous Human Outcome.
 2. Existential nihilism.

(C) What is meant by ‘chastening, discipline’ ?

‘chastening’ Strong’s G3809 - παιδεία *paideia* – 6x in the NT (3x chastening, 1x nurture, 1x instruction, 1x chastisement).

I. the whole training and education of children (which relates to the cultivation of mind and morals, and employs for this purpose now commands and admonitions, now reproof and punishment) It also includes the training and care of the body

II. whatever in adults also cultivates the soul, esp. by correcting mistakes and curbing passions.

A. instruction which aims at increasing virtue

B. chastisement, chastening, (of the evils with which God visits upon men for their amendment)

Eph.6:4 “And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the **nurture** G3809 and admonition of the Lord.

2 Ti.3:16 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction** G3809 in righteousness:”

- By remembering our context, the correct interpretation is that this passage is clearly teaching is that God not only authors but also uses suffering in our lives to instruct us. To train us. To educate us.

CONCLUSION:

Applied Wrongly:

- This means I must never protest against sufferings and trials.
- This means I am trapped in abusive or destructive relationships.
- This means that suffering in my life is caused by my sins.

Applied Correctly:

- This means suffering is evidence that God is nurturing and training me to into the likeness of Christ.
- This means that biblical lamenting is natural and acceptable.
- This means that through suffering God is growing me so I can remain hopeful during difficult times.