




Words of Grace for Troubled Times

A Tested Joy

1




A Tested Joy

One Main Point: Our hope of salvation in Christ allows us to persevere through faith-testing trials with supernatural joy.

Rejoicing Through Trials

- In "this" (vv. 3-5) you rejoice
- Four truths about trials
 - They are temporary.
 - They are various.
 - We all experience trials, but our trials differ in intensity, duration and temporal consequences.
 - They are refining and validating for our faith.
 - Our trials reveal our trusts
 - They prepare us for praise, glory and honor.

2

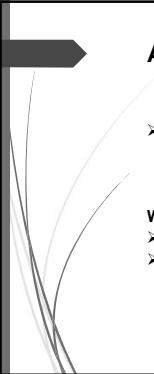


A Tested Joy

Loving the Unseen

- Three responses to an unseen savior
 - Love
 - Belief
 - Supernatural Joy
 - Glorious joy, not happiness, pleasure or a leisurely life

3



A Tested Joy

- The end of faith
 - Faith *becomes* sight
 - Faith *culminates* with being swallowed up in glory

Words of Grace for Troubled Times

- The necessity of proper perspective in trials
- The necessity of *exciting* ourselves with the Gospel
