





# **Experiencing healing & fruitfulness in the valley of suffering**

**Psalm 23:4 (New International Version)**

**<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me**

**PRINCIPLE:** we experience healing  
& fruitfulness in the valley of  
suffering when we surrender our  
"why" questions to God



**There are 2 truths**  
**that help us to**  
**surrender our "why"**  
**questions**

**Truth 1: there is an inseparable  
relationship between **grace** and  
**suffering****

**When it comes to grace we create  
a “spiritual dichotomy”**

**Give me what **I don't deserve**  
when it will make me happy &  
comfortable**

**Give me what **I do deserve** when  
it comes to suffering and pain**

# Truth 2: there is an inseparable relationship between **faith** & **trust**



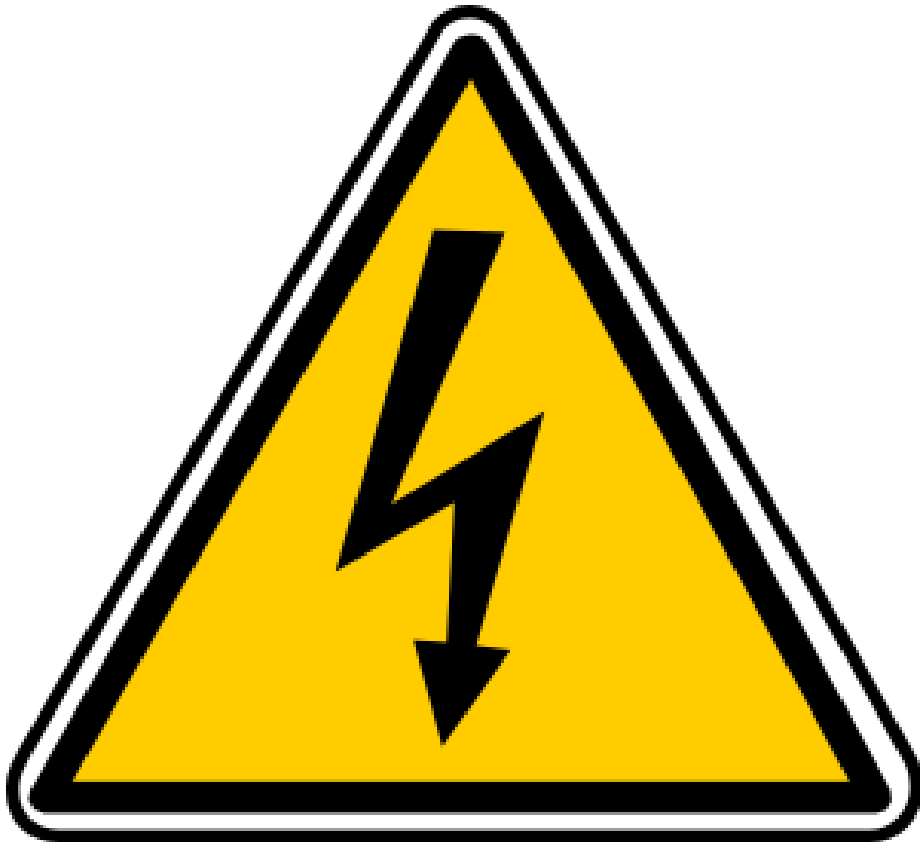
**FAITH**=giving obedience to a clear  
word from God

**TRUST**=giving surrender without  
any word from God at all

**Daniel 3:16-18 (New Living Translation)**

**<sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty. <sup>18</sup> But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."**

**TRUST**=giving surrender even  
when God's word doesn't mesh  
with a painful reality in my life



Finding the peace  
of the Holy Spirit  
in the **TENSION**  
between God's  
promise &  
unanswered  
prayer

## **Conclusions:**

**Suffering is a part of the normal  
Christian life**

**The final surrender of trust is  
making peace with the reality  
that certain questions will never  
be answered in this life-and only  
find their fulfillment in the light  
of eternity (Hebrews 11:13,39)**

**Hebrews 11:13 (New Living Translation)**

**<sup>13</sup> All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth.**

**Hebrews 11:39 (New International Version)**

**<sup>39</sup>These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.**

# The Lord is intimately connected with our pain

**Psalm 56:8 (New American Standard Bible)**

**<sup>8</sup>You have taken account of my  
wanderings; Put my tears in Your bottle  
Are they not in Your book?**



**John 11:33-35 (New International  
Version)**

**<sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and  
the Jews who had come along with  
her also weeping, he was deeply  
moved in spirit and troubled.**

**<sup>34</sup>"Where have you laid him?" he  
asked.**

**"Come and see, Lord," they  
replied.**

**<sup>35</sup>Jesus wept.**