

"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; ³² but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."
Luke 22:31-32 (NASB)

Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.
Psalm 119:67 (NASB)

My suffering was good for me, for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees.
Psalm 119:71 (NLT2)

- **OUR TRIALS, struggles and tests and those of others close to us, can bring us closer together.**
On the other hand trials can push us farther away from others if we let it.
- **The TRIALS we face help us realize our priorities.**
On the other hand the trials we face can cause us to throw in the towel and give up on life.
- **Trials HUMBLE us.**
On the other hand trials can harden our hearts and instead of becoming humble we become isolated because of pride we don't want anyone to know we are in need or suffering.
- **Trials can bring out our BEST.**
On the other hand trials can bring out our worst and cause us to become bitter at God.
- **Trials give us the chance to see MIRACLES.**
On the other hand if we ignore and refuse to accept and go through these trials we may miss out on the miracle God may have for us.

Jesus said to him, "If you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." ²² But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.
Matthew 19:21-22 (NASB)

- **PERSPECTIVE.**

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come closer to me." And they came closer. And he said, "I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ "Now do not be grieved or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ "For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. ⁷ "God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant in the earth, and to keep you alive by a great deliverance. ⁸ "Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his household and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 45:4-8 (NASB)

They took his advice; and after calling the apostles in, they flogged them and ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and then released them. ⁴¹ So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for His name.
Acts 5:40-41 (NASB)

Notes
