

Overcoming Life's Problems – Part 2

The reality of problems

1. Many believers have the mistaken idea that the Christian life is to be a problem-free life.
2. Of course, this is not reality. Trouble and problems are woven into the very fabric of life on planet earth.
 - “*Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble.*” **Job 14:1**
3. Biblical characters knew about the reality of problems:
 - Moses experienced problems with people he was leading. Numbers 16
 - Job experienced problems with Satan. Job 1:6-12
 - David experienced problems with sin. 2 Samuel 11
 - The apostles experienced problems with non-believers. Acts 5:17-18, 40
 - Paul experienced problems with other believers. Acts 15:36-40
4. Problems are simply a reality of life for the child of God. Problems are something that every believer must face and deal with.
5. We will never overcome our problems until we realize where our problems come from. This brings us to our next point.

The source of problems

Why do believers go through problems? Where do these problems come from?

1. **Some problems come through _____ assault. Ephesians 6:11-13, 16; 1 Thessalonians 2:18, 3:5**
 - “*Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.*” **2 Corinthians 2:11**
 - “*Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*” **1 Peter 5:8**
2. **Some problems come through a violation of God's principles (bad _____).**
Galatians 6:7-8
 - Many of our problems are brought on by our own disobedience to God's Word and God's principles.
 - When we violate God's Word we can expect problems.
 - Sometimes problems come into our lives because those around us violate God's Word, and it ill-affects us.

3. Some problems come simply because we live in a _____ creation. Romans 8:22-23

- This is the source of most of our problems.
- When you take sinful, imperfect, fallen people and put them on an earth that is under the _____ of sin, what is the result? Natural disasters, accidents, disease, pain, sickness, human atrocities, wickedness, violence, etc.
 - *“And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually... And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.” Genesis 6:5, 12-13*
- Each day that God _____ grace to lost sinners continues the reality of hurt, pain, sickness, and death on the earth.
- The reality is this: as long as we live on a sin-cursed earth, there will be problems, pain, and suffering. Paul was dedicated to and sold out to Jesus, but he knew this. Romans 8:18
 - *“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:17-18*

4. Some problems come because of persecution due to our _____ lives. 1 Peter 4:12-16

- *“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”*
2 Timothy 3:12
- *“For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.” 1 Peter 2:19-20*

The benefits of problems

- The benefit of God's _____ – 1 Peter 5:10
 - *“And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” 2 Corinthians 12:9*
- The benefit of God's _____ – 2 Corinthians 1:3-6
- The benefit of God's _____ – 1 Corinthians 10:13; Hebrews 4:14-16