

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

07/13/16 - No Short Cuts

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Revelation 2:1-7

Some character development is only gained through suffering. Jesus, the God-Man, "learned obedience from what he suffered and once made perfect [brought to completion or fulfillment], he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him" (Hebrews 5:7). Because of this, Jesus completely understands our situation.

You cannot pray to learn perseverance, you must persevere. Abraham had to persist twenty five years as he waited for his promised son. David was anointed king by Samuel, but spent thirteen years as a fugitive. It was thirteen years from Paul's introduction to the church by Barnabas before the first missionary journey.

God's destiny for us?our usefulness?demands our perseverance. The emperor moth must go through a struggle to emerge from the cocoon, only then will its wings fully develop their needed strength. As we persevere, our goal is to be like Jesus, and to hear "well done."

Author: Blair Rorabaugh