

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

06/14/15 - Tested Faith

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James 1:2-7

We want to be strong without pain. We want to be wise without suffering. But life doesn't usually work like that. Physical strength comes from resistance. Resistance stresses the body bringing greater strength and endurance. That's why we feel sore after a hard workout. It is the stress that makes us stronger.

Pottery, glass, and metal are often "treated" by exposing them to extreme heat. The furnace changes the chemical and physical properties of the material to make it significantly stronger.

We face a similar process of growth through suffering. As God proves faithful in our hard times our spiritual endurance will increase. We see that the God who brought us through that can bring us through this. Passing through trials gives us confidence in God's faithfulness. In the next time of trial the waves and wind will not beat us against the rocks. We have an anchor that they cannot touch. The question is not whether God will be faithful; that is already settled. The only question is whether we will have the wisdom to see what God is doing and how we should respond.

Author: Josh Broward