



UNDERSTANDING THE TRIALS OF LIFE

(PART 2 of 2)

MAY 15, 2023

PSAM 62:2 NKJV – (2) He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *He is* my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.

Seeking the Lord is like coming to a gold mine in search of treasure. You'll never reach the bottom, but the more you dig, the deeper you'll want to go. And the wonderful news is that this is where our peace is found. You may be challenged, but you'll never despair completely when you're resting in God Himself. Remember...

We must seek the Lord with all our heart - "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart" (**JEREMIAH 29:13**). This isn't just a casual interest in God. It means He your top priority, the most important person in your life. It's a pursuit that is motivated by love and a yearning for a deeper relationship with Him. The focus is on who the Lord is, not on what He can do for you.

A wholehearted pursuit of God cannot be accompanied by the toleration of sin in our lives (**ISAIAH 55:6-7**). This doesn't mean we have to be sinless, but those who seek the Lord will struggle to overcome their weakness instead of just yielding to them, they're willing to rid their lives of anything that doesn't fit their identity as followers of Jesus.

Seek Him diligently - "Those who diligently seek me will find me" (**PROVERBS 8:17**). Because there are a thousand things that divide our minds and steal our time, we'll have to deliberately work at giving the Lord first place. It will require sacrifice – putting aside other activities in order to spend time with God. We're usually willing to do this for other pursuits we value – like cultivating a hobby or maintaining our health.

Seek Him In faith - "Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him" (**HEBREWS 11:6**).

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 PETER 4:12

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: You can do it if you try.