

Discouragement

How a child of God copes

Introduction: II Timothy 3:12-13 tells us that those that desire to live a godly life will be persecuted while the world goes from bad to worse. The world lets us down, though mistreatment, hardship, persecution, temptations. Whatever the trial, discouragement is normal. But it isn't something God is pleased with if we let it affect our faith.

You can get to the point that you wonder why it's happening. But simply read the Bible, and you will see that this has always been how it's been, and we have had it pretty easy. Maybe that's why we're going through times of difficulty.

Read these passages and consider the actions of those who faced discouragement.

Romans 8:35-38

Gen. 19:1-17

II Peter 2:6-9

I Kgs. 19:1-18

II Kgs. 2:9-12

II Cor. 4:7-5:10

II Tim. 1:12

I Peter 3:15-16

Col. 4:2-6

Lk. 22:39-44

Lk. 23:33-34,46

II Corinthians 4:8-11

Final thoughts: Think about it; everyone has had it hard. Christians in the 1500s were killed for merely owning a Bible. Those who were doing the killing were the religious leaders of the day. The heroes of the Bible handled it. They kept the faith, finished the race. Let's be heroes too.