



Lesson 31: A panic sent from God

Read Isaiah 43:1-3. In these verses, God is reminding Israel that He can be trusted to protect them. Re-read verse 1. Knowing that we have been redeemed by God, do those words comfort you? Why or why not?

Read Exodus 14:30-31. Who was saved in these verses? From whom were they saved? Who saved them? What was the reaction of the people who were saved?

Read Psalm 51. Who wrote this Psalm? When did he write it?

Read 1 John 1:5-10. According to this passage, if we confess our sins, what happens? Do we play a part in that (aside from confession)?

Looking at Psalm 51 and 1 John 1:5-10 together, what must have happened as David confessed his sin?

When we sin, and we repent, God is faithful to forgive us. That doesn't mean the consequences will be erased. God forgave David, but the infant son he had with Bathsheba still died, and wasn't resurrected. David still had to deal with the consequence of his sin.

One of the most mis-quoted verses in the Bible is 1 Corinthians 10:13. It is quoted as saying that "God won't give you more than you can bear." Read 1 Corinthians 10:13. What does it ACTUALLY say?

Paul is talking in terms of sin, in 1 Corinthians, not suffering. What does the Bible have to say about suffering?

Read Romans 5:1-5. Does this passage promise no suffering? Does it promise suffering we can always handle?

Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11. Paul tells us the type of suffering he experienced in Asia. Describe it. According to verse 9, was there a purpose for that suffering? In verse 10, Paul tells us that he has set what on God? What happened when Paul relied on God when he was brought to the point of death, with suffering he could not bear alone? (verse 10)

Paul trusted God, placed his hope in God, after all the suffering he had endured, not because he expected no more suffering in this life, but because he knows God will deliver him, either through death into glory, or from the suffering to greater use for God. Suffering and trials will come. Re-read 2 Corinthians 1:3-11. Paul's focus wasn't on his own well-being, but on God's mission for him being accomplished. What about you? Are you ready for the trials, or will you be surprised when they come?

Whose strength are you relying on today to get you through the trials you face?