The Chastening of the Lord (Hebrews 12:5,6)

Tony Mauck · Hebrews 12:5–11

INTRODUCTION

- For those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines. And he scourges every son whom he receives.
- This is sorrowful, yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.
- I think it's a training and a discipline that goes beyond the instruction of Scripture to the circumstances of our lives that train and teach us.

1 God Is Actively Involved in Our World

Hebrews 1:14; Ephesians 3:20; James 5:16

- Even when the miraculous is not happening, God is active in the world.
- And everything is working according to his timetable and his desires and his purposes. And his purposes will be accomplished.
- They're ministering spirits sent out to serve the elect.
- God says He is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think.
- He doesn't ask us to delve into that, but to trust Him.
- Job, I'm powerful. I'm in control. And you need to trust.

2 Circumstances Can Train Regardless of Their Source

1 Peter 1:7; Romans 5:1–5; 1 Corinthians 10:13

- But whatever the source, the trial of your faith be more precious than gold that perishes.
- It is with difficulty that the righteous are saved. And trust your soul to a faithful creator in doing what is right.
- No matter the severity, the crisis must not be allowed to break you.
- Temptation has its limit. There's a way of escape provided. We can endure trials. God can strengthen us.
- You keep looking long term. That's what Hebrews 12 is saying.
- God doesn't guarantee that. Happiness here is not guaranteed.

3 Don't Focus on Divining the Source; Pursue Faith and Holiness

Romans 8

- It doesn't matter what the circumstance is, who caused it.
- But regardless of what it is, your faith can remain intact.
- This is God's world. He is sovereign. Nothing happens that he is rendered powerless to stop.

- But sometimes he allows things to happen that can actually be helpful to us.
- Look at the good that can come out of tragedy when we lock arms and love each other and keep on doing what we do as Christians.
- Quit trying to divine the source. And know that faith is possible in every circumstance.

THE CHALLENGE

Is there someone in this audience tonight who needs to respond in faith so that you can live a life of salvation and glory unto God?

MY NOTES