

003 – Adversity

- The purpose of coming to this world is to experience adversity, opposition
- [2 Nephi 2:11](#) must needs be opposition in all things
- Without opposition there would be no growth
- [Discourses of B.Y. p345](#) *“All intelligent beings who are crowned with crowns of glory... must pass through every ordeal appointed for intelligent beings to pass through, to gain their glory and exaltation.*
- Every calamity that can come upon mortal beings will be suffered to come upon the few, to prepare them to enjoy the presence of the Lord. If we obtain the glory that Abraham obtained, we must do so by the same means that he did. If we are ever prepared to enjoy the society of Enoch, Noah, Melchizedek, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, or of their faithful children, and of the faithful Prophets and Apostles, we must pass through the same experience, and gain the knowledge, intelligence, and endowments that will prepare us to enter into the celestial kingdom of our Father and God.”
- [Neil A. Maxwell](#) said there are ordained tutorials that belong just to you that you knew about before you came here, and they are designed to have a specific effect upon your progress.
- Trials bring us to Know God not just Know of Him
- Through trials we can prove to God he can trust us
- Through trials we can learn to trust God
- [Outward church](#) is Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – purpose is to bring us to the temple
- [Inward church](#) is Church of the Firstborn - Temple ordinances lead us into the Church of the Firstborn
- [B.Y.](#) *“There is not a trial which the Saints are called to pass through that they would not realize and acknowledged to be their greatest blessings”* if they understood it could bring them eternal life.
- We don’t believe “bad things happen to good people.” All experiences in life are for our good.
- We cannot become a Zion person and prepare a Zion place for the Savior to come to dwell on earth without tremendous adversity.
- The tribulations of the last days have two purposes: 1) cleanse the earth, 2) sanctify us and prepare us for the Church of the Firstborn
- [2 Nephi 2:1-2](#) God will consecrate our afflictions for our gain
- [D&C 98:1-3](#) Instructions for us to handle adversity: 1) Be comforted, 2) in everything give thanks, 3) wait patiently on the Lord – and He promises us that “All things wherewith you have been afflicted shall work together for your good.”
- [D&C 121:3](#) Joseph Smith crying unto the Lord in Liberty Jail (the trial of his faith) *“O Lord, how long shall they suffer these wrongs and unlawful oppressions...”*
- [D&C 121: 7](#) *My son, peace be unto thy soul; thine adversity and thine afflictions shall be but a small moment; 8 And then, if thou endure it well, God shall exalt thee on high; thou shalt triumph over all thy foes.*
- Afflictions are temporary. We live in a temporary world. Even devil’s afflictions can be temporary.
- [James 4:7](#) - *Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*
- We are all going to endure things. Our choice comes in whether we will Endure Well. Enduring well brings rewards.
- [B.Y.](#) states *“some of these trials are ordained ordeals that are specifically designed to move you into the Church of the Firstborn and give you full membership in that Zion society.”*
- Our trials can make us “better” or “bitter.” Choose.
- [D&C 122:7](#) *...all these things shall give thee experience and shall be for thy good.*
- Wisdom cannot come without experience.
- [D&C 11:7](#) Seek not for riches but for wisdom; and, behold, the mysteries of God shall be unfolded unto you, and then shall you be made rich. Behold, he that hath eternal life is rich.
- Our greatest wisdom comes from our greatest suffering.
- [Joseph Smith](#) said, "I'm like a huge rough stone rolling down the mountainside." Hitting up against adversity until he became a polished shaft in the quiver of the Almighty.
- [Spencer W. Kimball](#), "Being human, we would expel from our lives physical pain and mental anguish and assure ourselves a continual ease and comfort. Suffering can make Saints of people..."
- [D&C 121:26-31](#) If we ASK we shall be given knowledge by the Holy Ghost – nothing shall be withheld...in the dispensation of the fullness of times.
- [Joseph Smith](#) “Noah came before the flood, I come before the fire.”
- It is time for us to prepare to change with the Earth from a Telesstial state to a Terrestrial state.