

## When Trouble Comes A'knockin

Song: Over My Head

1 Over my head I see trouble in the air.

Over my head I see trouble in the air.

Over my head I see trouble in the air;

There must be a God somewhere!

John 16:33 : <sup>33</sup> These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”<sup>1</sup> Tribulation: directing suffering, trouble, persecution, suffering. Take heart, be courageous

God promises that in this life we will face obstacles. There is a tendency among us to panic in the face of unexpected trouble!

In the face of trouble, I have a tendency to be overwhelmed and I want to bail!

Thus the topic of tonight's message:

When trouble comes....What do I do.

Or

Run, like your life depended upon it!!

Story about car coming through bedroom!

Theme verse Hebrews 12: 1-2

**12** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Purpose for Hebrews was to prepare the Jewish Christians, especially those living in Jerusalem, for the approaching Fall of Jerusalem. Paul discusses topics such as Relation of Christ to the Levitical Priesthood and the Temple Sacrifices. After accepting Jesus as their Messiah they continued to be zealous for the Temple Rites and Sacrifices. Paul explains to them Animal Sacrifices to which they were zealously attached, were no longer of any use. Now everything pointed to Jesus the Sacrificial Lamb who takes away the sins of the World. One commentary: “Romans was addressed to the Capital of the Gentile World; Hebrews to the Capital of the Jewish Nations. Hebrews has to do with the relation of the King to the One Nation out of which He came”. My Ryrie Bible; letting God's Word get into me and I get into it!

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<sup>1</sup> *The New King James Version*. (1982). (Jn 16:33). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

We are in a race! How we run that race, how we endure, how we finish must begin with entering. Correct entering is to be Born of the Spirit. My testimony. I was all in from January 26, 1974 until today. Give up the “goods” which are really “the bad stuff”! Note the “let us”. Great “hint-hint” instructions.

When we run, let our running be based on testimony of others! First testimony for me was negative...”Don’t do what I did!”

**Point #1** Run without hindrances verse - Paul went to a lot of trouble to remind us what the “there” is there “for”!! Some have gone before us and “by faith” (used 18 times) they made it to the finish line, We would do well to learn from them.

1A. Biblical testimony provides the cheering section (stands the test of time)!!

1B. Mentoring testimony provides the wisdom section: [Romans 15:4](#) “For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope”.

Point 1C. Fellowship of the Saints testimony provides the strategic session. We need **others** in our life. Avoid isolationism!!

**Point # 2:** Run without Hindrances “let us lay aside every weight, and sin which so easily entangles us...”

Point 2A: Shake off Detractors!!

Focus on this slide! Remember I mentioned Fright, Flight, or Frenzy. I told you about the car that came through the bedroom. Now I want to discuss those sins that so easily entangle us! Sin that weighs us down! Hindrances or encumbrances are known by each of us. What is hindering my walk may not be hindering your walk.

- Let’s go back and look at our armored warrior...
- Walk with me through this caricature or cartoon of what happens when the armor of God is discarded because of distraction! First the Sword of the Spirit is dropped because we stopped reading the Word, we stopped getting into the Word and not allowing the Word to get into us!

Sword Dropped... First the Sword of the Spirit is dropped because we stopped reading the Word, we stopped getting into the Word and not allowing the Word to get into us!

Look at my Ryrie Bible!!

Let go of the Shield of Faith....no faith..

Let go of the Breast Plate of Righteousness...no right living, no pursuit of 1 Tim. 6:11

Let go of the Gospel of Peace...no peace of God, no comfort.

Let go of the Belt of Truth...not sure anymore of what is truth; situational ethics come into play.

Let go of the Helmet of Salvation! No longer sure of salvation. Lost of Hope!!

Hopelessly running away....

Romans: 7: 23-24 "23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" I will come back to the solution in a few minutes.

Let's not RETREAT except when fleeing youthful lust!! 2 Tim. 2:22

Point 2B..."Shake off an offense (another kind of sin that weighs us down!!

You offended me!! Here I'd like to suggest that this distraction be dealt with by putting on spiritual blinders! This causes the Christian to "ACT" instead of "RE-ACT" Put on these things!!

Point 2

B...."blinders: my personal horse blinder story:

*For many horses, blinders are commonly used in order to prevent the horse from becoming distracted. Horses have their eyes at the sides of their heads, which indicates that they are the hunted -- similar to rabbits, for example -- as opposed to the hunters such as cats. Horses, therefore, have peripheral vision, which means they can end up running off course unless they are made to remain focused.*

*"You want to keep a horse from panicking," trainer Bob Baffert said. "That's what you have to worry about with the horse, what you think about with blinkers. Lactic acid kicks in when they turn for home because they panic. They might be dead fit, but if they get to panicking, they're out of gas."*

Point 2

Point 2C..."Shake off Pride"

impact of book *From Pride to Humility*

**Point #3** Running with Endurance... "...let us run with endurance the race that is set before us" Looking from afar

Have a mindset to stay connected to God no matter what!  
Romans 8: 38-39

Have a patient mindset.

Psalm 46:10 abandon, withdraw, go limp, grow slack, release, become helpless, let something or someone alone! It means..(Oh NO)..to WAIT!!

Point 3C: Have a mature mindset.

Romans 5:3 What is our character when we see trouble, when we are in “that” state of uncertainty. (is it profanity, anger, whining, temper tantrums, etc)

Point #4: Run like your life depended on it! “2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Point 4A: Run Committed to stay focused  
Keep eyes (of our mind, our heart, our direction)

Point 4B: Run Committed to winning  
1 Corinthians 9: 24-26

Point 4C: Run committed to being a participant in the race!  
Philippians 3:12-14 “12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Point 3D: Run committed to being spiritually fit (be intentional)!

## **Point #5** Application

4 Running Blocks of endurance. How to avoid quitting.

John 16: 22-24

### HOPE

Psalm 33: 18-19

Psalm 43:5

### FAITH

Romans 5:1-2

2 Corinthians 5: 507

## FAITH

Hebrews 11:6

By Faith, You did what?

## PRAISE

Verses: Psalm 30: 11-12;

Psalm 42: 11 “

Why are you cast down, O my soul?  
And why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God;  
For I shall yet praise Him,  
The help of my countenance and my God. “

For skeptics: When foot strikes the rock in the path....Read Psalm 91: 11-13

What do I do: P.R.A.Y.

- Patience(waiting, watching, witnessing)
- Resistance (Jesus said it: “Get thee behind me Satan!” Matt. 16:23)
- Acknowledge (where you stop and God begins)
- Yield:

Not to fear, fright, or frenzy

To God’s will, God’s way, God’s truth and God’s life

When trouble comes a’knockin:

- Let Joy, Faith, Hope and Praise be rock’in as you finish strong:
- Acts 20:24 “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.
- 2 Timothy 4:7-8 “7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

When trouble comes a’knockin

- 1 Corinthians 16:13,14 “13 Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done with love.
- DON’T QUIT!
- DON’T LET SATAN ROB YOU!!
- Don’t forget to “do” the “let us”!!