

The Inner Man- Trials part 7

- I.** The inner man is a metaphor used to describe how the spiritual Christian is enabled by the Holy Spirit.
1. It pictures the spiritual Christian being influenced by the indwelling Godhead:
 - 1) The Divine nature—God the Father (2 Pet. 1:4).
 - 2) The mind of Christ—Christ (1 Cor. 2:16).
 - 3) The strong desires for the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:16-17).
 2. The inner man emphasizes the spiritual Christian's thought life.
 3. God allows trials into the spiritual Christian's life:
 - 1) To strengthen his faith (1 Tim. 4:8-10).
 - 2) To develop discernment (Heb. 5:14).
 - 3) For practice in dependance upon God (2 Cor. 12:10).
 4. Trials are not temptation, in and of themselves.
 5. Trials are different from punishment/child-training.
 6. Tribulations develop an ability to comfort other Christians (2 Cor. 1:4) and use joy (2 Cor. 7:4).
 7. Persecutions develop strength in the faith (Gal. 3:22).
- II.** Distress as a trial.
1. Basic concept of the term is to be in a narrow place, hemmed in with no place to turn, no visible exit.
 2. Can be the result of Christian ministry (2 Cor. 6:4).
 3. May not be a trial, but self-exposed (2 Cor. 6:11-18).

Believers	<i>Unequally yoked</i>	Unbelievers
Righteousness	<i>Sharing</i>	Unrighteousness
Light	<i>Sharing in common</i>	Complete darkness
Christ	<i>Harmony</i>	Worthless one—Satan
Believer	<i>Part of/portion</i>	Unbeliever
Holy of Holies	<i>Agreement</i>	Idols

4. Christ loves the Christian in distress (Rom. 8:35).