

After

HEBREWS 6:11 - 15

- 11 † And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:
 12 † That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through **faith and patience** inherit the promises.
 13 † For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself,
 14 † Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.
 15 † And so, **After he had patiently ENDURED**, he obtained the promise.

ABRAHAM - After HE:

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49 † It was **ABRAHAM, after** he'd seen the ground get barren, and the drought come, and Lot separate himself and go down to live deliciously into the world; it was **after** he had heard the whines and cries of--of his herdsmen, with no grass for his cattle, but he maintained in the land that God gave him and told him to sojourn in. And as on that day, **after he'd been tried till his--his patience was at the end**; it was on that day that when **after the trial was over**, **HE SPOKE FACE TO FACE WITH ELOHIM** under the oak that day. It was **after** he'd suffered his trials, **after** he'd went through the troubles that he'd been through, that God appeared to him in the form of a Man, and set there and told him he was married and his wife's name was Sarah, and said she laughed at Him in the tent behind. It was there that **ABRAHAM CALLED HIM ELOHIM. IT WAS after THE TRIAL AND TRIBULATION.**

NOAH - After HE HAD ENDURED THE FLOOD, SEES RAINBOW COVENANT

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43 † **AND WHY DOES GOD LET TROUBLES COME? *God harnesses trouble, puts bits in its mouth, and makes it obey Him, and those troubles bring us into a closer fellowship with God.***

There had been no rainbow **until** the flood came. But **after** Noah was pressed into that condition that he was in, to float forty days and nights in a storm and the little ark pitching up and down in the water, it was **after** the flood was over that he saw the rainbow for its first time, the covenant of hope, the covenant of promise. **After** he'd went through the tribulation, then he saw the promise.

That's the way you see the promise, **after** you've gone through the tribulation. I've liked that poem, or psalm:

*Must I be carried home to Heaven on a flow'ry bed of ease,
 While others fought to win the prize and sailed through bloody seas?*

We ask for comfort and peace; God gives us the best He could give us: trials and tribulations. That's better than comfort and peace. Our comforts is just beyond the river.

SHADRACH, MESHACH, AND ABEDNEGO**After THEY WERE CAST INTO THE FIERY FURNACE, SON OF MAN MAKES HIS APPEARANCE**

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47 † It wasn't **until** the Hebrew children was forced into the fiery furnace, on one of their most outstanding trials, that they seen One like the Son of God stand among them. Their troubles produced the Son of God standing among them in the breezes to wave away the heat wave. But not **until** they went into the fire did that Comforter appear.

DANIEL - After THROWN IN THE LION'S DEN

It was Daniel who had purposed in his heart that he'd not defile himself with the things of the world, and was forced through a trial, whether he'd pray to God or go to a lions' den. But it was **after** the heat was put on, and he was thrown into a lions' den, that **after** that, **he saw the Angel of the Lord** standing in the midst of him, keeping away, **that great Pillar of Fire standing between him and the lions. And the lions could not get him, because he'd went through the trials and temptations and troubles.** He knew that his God was able to deliver him from that.

PERFECTING - FOR OUR GOOD

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« 28 † It is written in one of the Scriptures in the Bible, that, "***Trials are brought upon us, are more precious to us than gold itself, for it is God giving us these trials.***" ***After*** we become His property, our confession, and our baptism, and our promise to walk in life for Him, then every trial that comes upon us is ***to perfect us for His glory.***

It's to bring us to a place where God can make Himself more real to us than He was Before the trial come.

I want to join in this morning with Job to say that I've lived long enough to know that's the truth. ***I have seen it in my own life, that every time a great situation rises, that I can't get around it, or under it, or over it, God makes a way, and comes out glorious. I just wonder how His grace ever does it, but He does it.***

And remember, in all these things Satan tries to make us nervous, and upset us, to get us to think, "Oh, why did this happen? Why couldn't I have been like this?"

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« 36 † It's those crucial hours that press us on to those sacred sands. It was in the Bible. ***And remember, no matter how great the distress is, Satan cannot take your life until God has finished with you. There is nothing can happen to you unless God permits it. There is no evil can come unless God permits it.***

And it's for your good He's working that.

Let's think, there when the floods came to destroy the world, it could not destroy **NOAH**. **NOAH** could not be destroyed, because that God had a work for him to do.

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« 41 † Satan could not take them. He could not drown **NOAH** in the flood, ***until*** the purpose of God had been finished. He could not burn up the **HEBREW CHILDREN** until the purpose of God had been finished. He could not kill **JOB** with boils and troubles ***until*** the purpose of God had been finished. Neither could the lions eat **DANIEL** ***until*** God's purpose had been finished. Neither could death and old age take **ABRAHAM** ***until*** the purpose of God had been finished. And neither can it take **YOU**, or can it take **ME** ***until*** the purpose of God of our life is finished. So we gather from their consolation.

SHADOW

PSALM 23:4 - 6

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.