

When your faith is tried, who will you affect and how?

**3) It Brings A Home In Heaven.** Abraham desired “*a better country*” and a city “*whose builder and maker is God*” (Heb. 11:10, 16). He ensured that he could get there by exercising his faith under the severest of trials. The Hebrew author penned that Abraham, “*when he was tried, offered up Isaac*” (Heb. 11:17). Would your faith allow you to undertake such a task requested by God? Abraham has been passed on for centuries, but that has not stopped God from declaring Himself as the “*God of Abraham*” (Matt. 22:32). If you are looking for that Heavenly city, it comes as a result of your faith persevering through difficult trials.

**4) It Brings Glory To God.** Ultimately, the trial of our faith is precious because it brings God “*praise and honour and glory*” (I Pet. 1:7). After all, this is the greatest reason for our existence. When others see us last through those challenging times effectively, they wonder why. Then they come to find out that it is our undying faith in our Father and Creator, and the light shines on God (Matt. 5:16). Paul reminded we should “*be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world*” (Php. 2:15). May it ever be!

Always consider the trying of your faith a precious thing. Never give up and never give in and never quit, just keep on obeying God and remaining faithful to Him! “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord*” (I Cor. 15:58).

**FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST** ♦ Vincennes, Indiana  
Meeting at Holiday Inn Express in Vincennes, Indiana  
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# THE VINCENNES VOICE

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

## “THE TRIAL OF FAITH” by Larry R. Ping II

Peter penned, “*That the trial of your faith*” is “*much more precious than of gold that perisheth*” (I Pet. 1:7). There is no doubting this divinely inspired statement. But what is not completely revealed in this verse is why the trial of faith is precious and what the trial brings. To that end, we offer this article.

**1) It Brings Patience.** James submitted, “*that the trying of your faith worketh patience*” (Jam. 1:3). The idea here is endurance, the ability to last through the difficult times of the Christian’s life. This is the same “*patience*” written about in II Pet. 1:6. Each time our personal faith is tried and tested, and we successfully bear up, our endurance (patience) increases. As our age increases, the hope is that our patience will as well. Remember the words of Jesus Christ when He said, “*In your patience possess ye your souls*” (Lk. 21:19). Wouldn’t you say that patience and endurance are important?

**2) It Brings Others To God.** Remember the three young men of the fiery furnace in Daniel 3? Their faith was threatened with the ultimate sacrifice, a furnace made seven times hotter (Dan. 3:19). Their faith allowed them to say, “*we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up*” (Dan. 3:18). After all was said and done, and the three young men exited unscathed, it was apparent their successful trial of faith had an impact. The king said, “*there is no other God that can deliver after this sort*” (v. 29). - continued -

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## **BIBLE READING QUESTIONS**

The Bible reading for Mar. 19-Mar. 25 spans Eph. 6:9-Php. 4:15.

Answer the following questions based upon your reading.

- 1) For what did Paul request prayer in Ephesians 6:19?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) “Paul and Timotheus, the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ, to all the \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_” (Php. 1:1).
- 3) What comes along with believing (Php. 1:29)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) “Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence \_\_\_\_\_, but now much more in my \_\_\_\_\_, work out your \_\_\_\_\_ salvation with \_\_\_\_\_ and trembling” (Php. 2:12).
- 5) How is Epaphroditus described in Philippians 2:25?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) “I \_\_\_\_\_ toward the mark for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Php. 3:14).
- 7) On what are Christians to be thinking and acting (Php. 4:8)?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **READING SCHEDULE AND MEMORY VERSES FOR THE DAYS OF MAR. 19-MAR. 25, 2023.**

**March 19, 2023:** Eph. 6:9-Eph. 6:24

**March 20, 2023:** Php. 1:1-Php. 1:17

**March 21, 2023:** Php. 1:18-Php. 1:30

**March 22, 2023:** Php. 2:1-Php. 2:18

**March 23, 2023:** Php. 2:19-Php. 2:30

**March 24, 2023:** Php. 3:1-Php. 3:21

**March 25, 2023:** Php. 4:1-Php. 4:15

*“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:12).*

*“But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons” (Col. 3:25).*

### **FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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