

1 Thess. 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. B. Be Motivated by Discernment of one Lurking for a Victim —"... because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" 2 Cor. 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices. Our adversary is just as real as a rattlesnake lurking in the shadows ready to strike an unsuspecting victim.



2 Cor. 11:13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if **his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness**; whose end shall be according to their works.

Victory, and encouragement, requires vigilance and resistance = fighting the good fight of faith!

Josh. 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.

1 Tim. 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called,

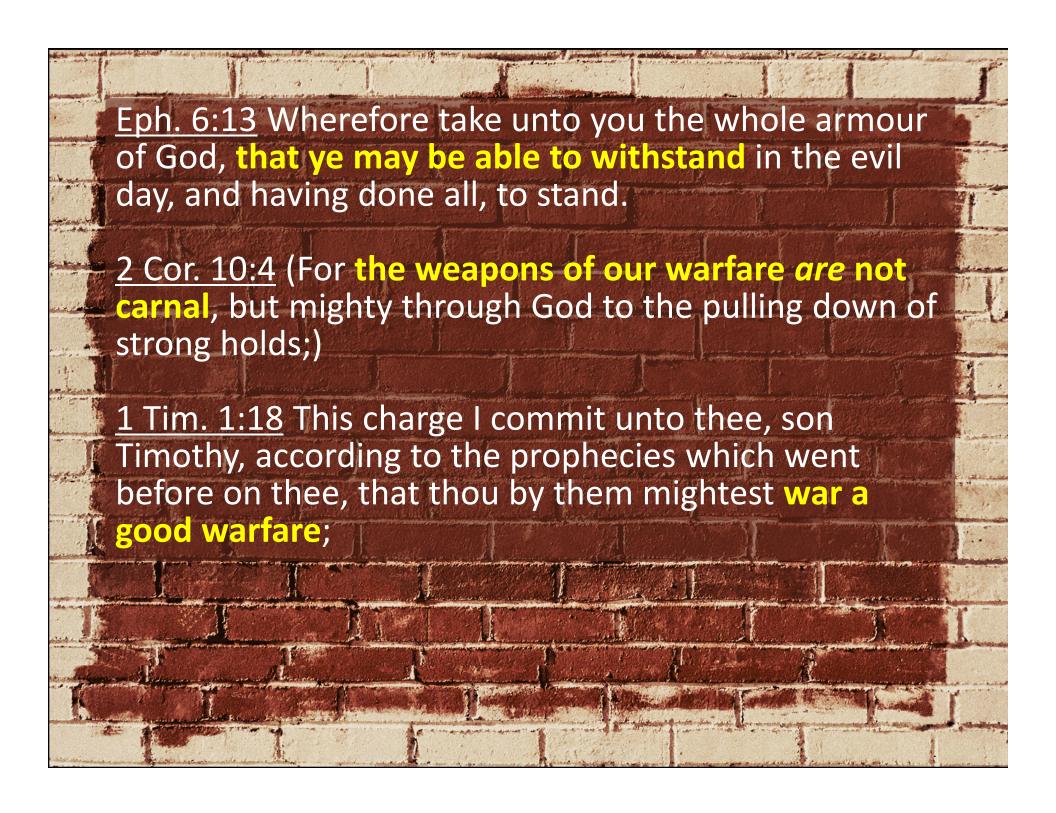
## II. THE RESISTANCE AMID AFFLICTIONS

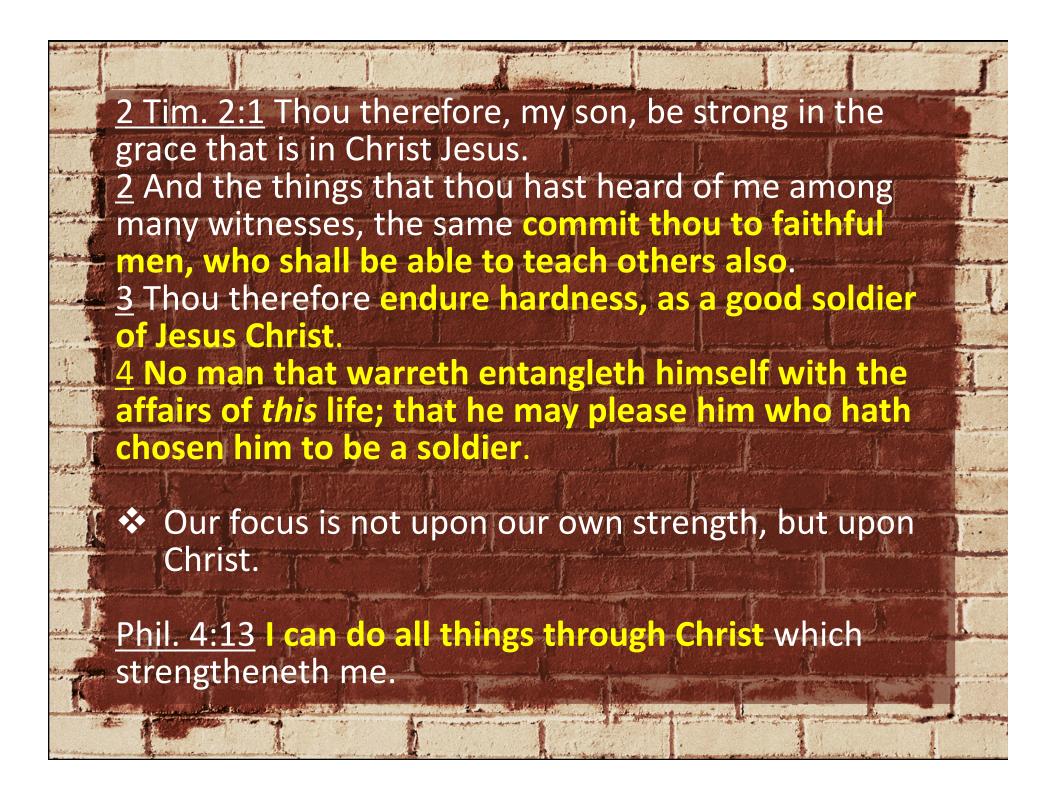
1 Pet. 5:9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

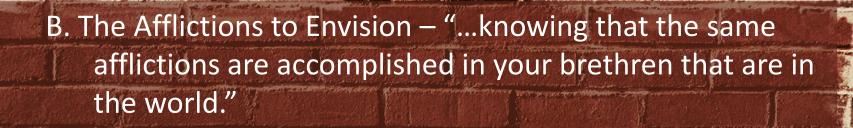
1 Jn. 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

A. The Action to Engage — "...resist stedfast in the faith..."

Jas. 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.







1 Cor. 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

## III. THE REHABILITATION OF ATTRIBUTES

1 Pet. 5:10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

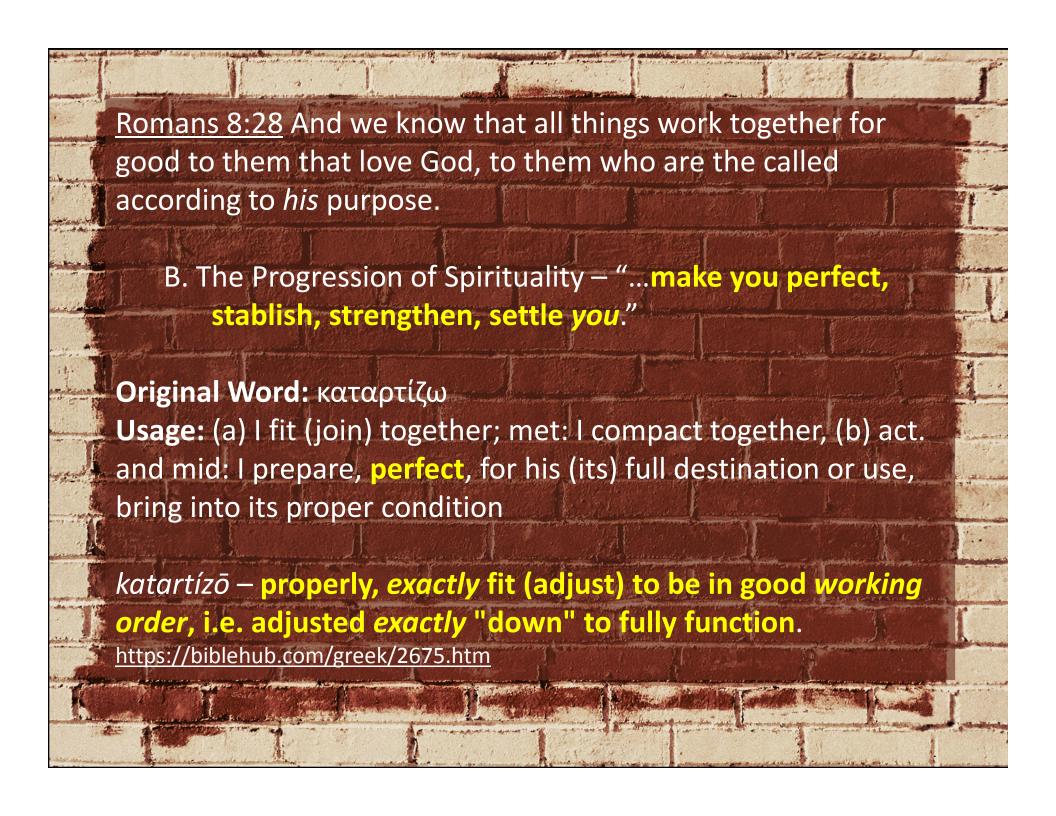
11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

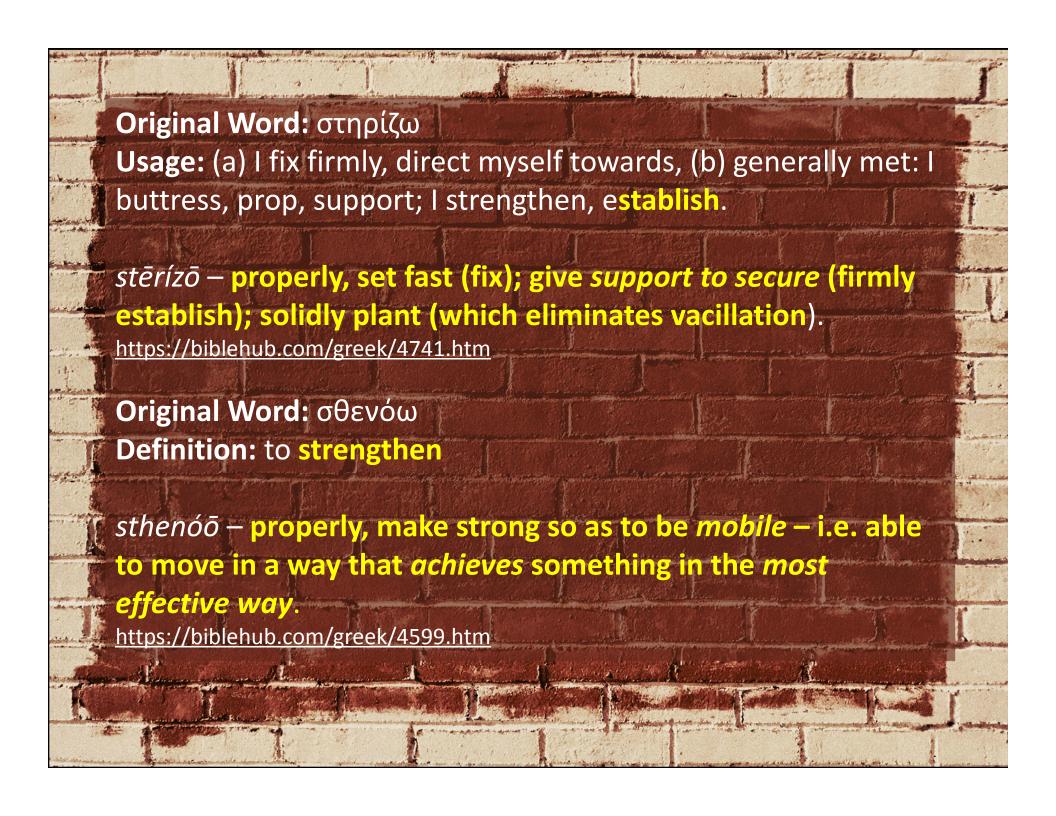
## A. The Purpose of Suffering

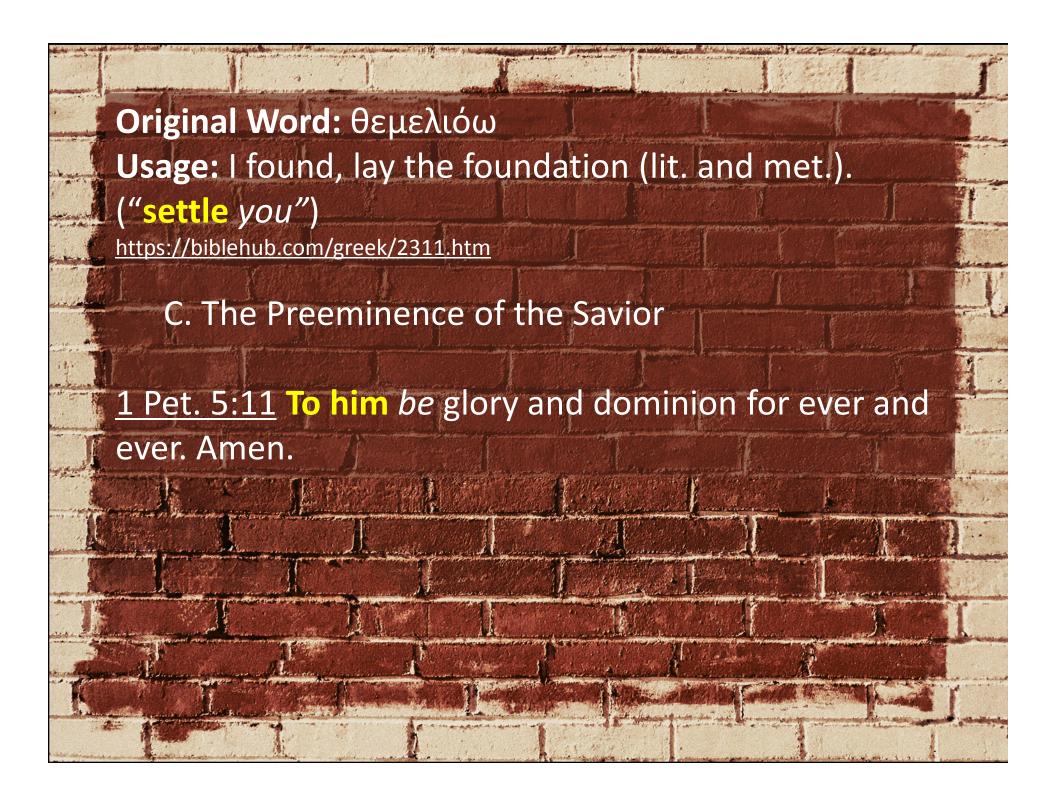
1 Pet. 5:10 "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while..."

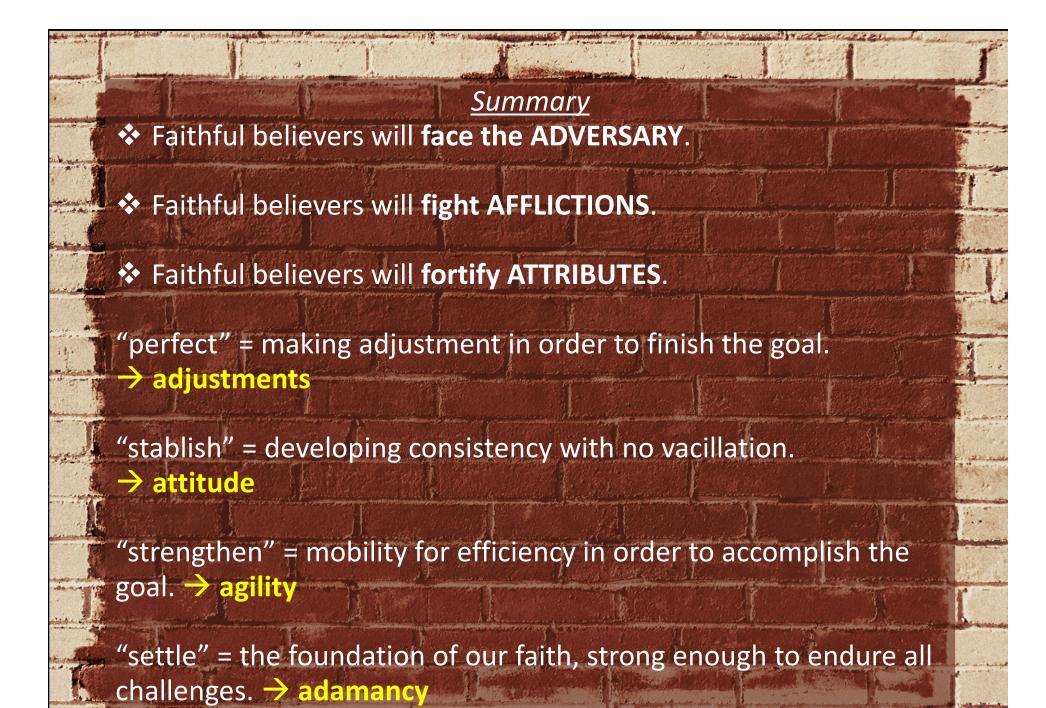
"We may not know all the reasons for suffering, but, in this text it is evident that the purpose is for our spiritual growth."

- <u>2 Peter 1:5-9</u> And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;
- **6** And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;
- 7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.
- 8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **9** But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.











Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Josh. 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Josh. 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Josh. 3:7 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.