

Learning from Affliction – Part 4

Introduction

- Before affliction, our thoughts tend to wander – careless (v. 67a)
- Before affliction, our actions tend to wander – careless (v. 67a)
- After affliction, the psalmist was thankful, teachable & humble (v. 65, 66, 67a)
- After affliction, obedience to the word of God was a priority (v. 67b)

I. Learning About God (v. 68a)

A. Character (“are good”)

*God’s character never changes (Mal. 3:6; Jas. 1:17). Even in affliction, God is always **good** (Ps. 100:5; Lk. 18:19). God’s **goodness** makes a believer thankful (Ps. 106:1).*

B. Actions (“do good”)

God is the source of good deeds (Jas. 1:17a). Everyone experiences God’s goodness (Ps. 145:9): provides (Ac. 14:17), forgives (Ps. 86:5), scriptures (Rom. 7:12) ...everything (Jas. 1:17). The believer truly appreciates God’s goodness (Ps. 34:8; 1Pe. 2:3).

II. Learning About Ourselves (v. 68b-72)

A. Character

A believer who has learned from affliction is humble & teachable (v. 68), not vindictive (v. 69a, 70a), and values the scriptures (v. 70b, 72).

B. Actions

A believer who has learned from affliction: endures verbal & uncaring affliction without retaliation (v. 69a, 70a), is fervently obedient (v. 69b), delights in the scriptures (v. 70b) and applies the scriptures (v. 71).