

When Trouble Comes, What Then?

Dr. John Jackson | November 30, 2025

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33 NIV

"Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses;"

2 Corinthians 6:4 NIV

WHEN TROUBLE COMES - DELAY

1. Don't worry.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes?"

Matthew 6:25 NIV

2. Don't give up.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Galatians 6:9 NIV

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up."

Luke 18:1 NIV

3. Be patient.

"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

2 Peter 3:9 NIV

4. Trust God.

"For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."

Habakuk 2:3 NIV

WHEN TROUBLE COMES - DIFFICULTY

1. Ask, "What is the source of my struggle?"

2. Ask, "What does God want me to learn?"

"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 NIV

3. Ask, "How should I respond to this?"

"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Phillipians 3:12-14 NIV

1. Confess your sin.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1:9 NIV

2. Consider your responsibility.

"Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else, for each one should carry his own load."

Galatians 6:4-5 NIV

3. Claim God's promises.

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God."

2 Corinthians 1:20 NIV

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

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