

man. As a result, He had to face life's trials and tests just as we do (Phil. 2:5-8). Like us, He had to exercise trust in God His Father.

I see this in the story about Lazarus. Jesus deliberately delayed departing for Bethany when He heard that Lazarus was sick. By waiting, He was exercising faith in His Father's wisdom and power. [He knew it was His Father's will that Lazarus die so that God would be glorified (Jn. 11:4)].

Because of His faith, Jesus returned to a place where an attempt had been made on His life (v.8). And even though He had never restored to life a person who had been buried (4 days), He declared confidently, "I go that I may wake him up" (v.11).

His disciples might have wondered why Jesus didn't heal Lazarus before he died. Why go into dangerous territory when He had the power to perform miracles from a distance? (Mt. 8:5-13). But Jesus didn't question His Father's leading. He went forward with perfect trust in His wisdom.

Although we may not see clearly the end result of the trials we face, we can have confident faith in our heavenly Father. We can trust God to glorify Himself and to work out His good purposes through us. --HVL

*God, give me that faith of a little child!
A faith that will look to Thee--
That never will falter and never fail,
But follow Thee trustingly. --Showerman*

Faith focuses on God instead of life's problems.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

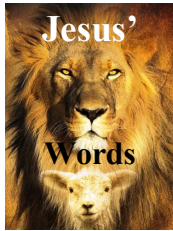
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Jesus, Man Of Faith

This sickness is . . . for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it. --John 11:4

Jesus laid aside the privileges and glory of His deity when He became a





When Things Go Wrong



Ndungu Kebbeh where Wayne and Noeline lived in The Gambia

From John 11:1-16 we can discern three appropriate responses when things go wrong:

John 10:31

1. Trust the Lord's _____, verses 1-6, 39, 14-15, 21, 32



Adoniram Judson

***Ephesians 3:20-21** — 20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, 21 to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

***Romans 11:33-34** — 33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?"*

2. Trust the Lord and continue to _____ with _____, verses 7-10

***1 John 1:5-7** — 5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*



3. Keep _____ the Lord even when things go from _____ to _____, verses 4, 11-16

***Romans 5:8** — 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

***Romans 8:35-39** — 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

***John 20:28** — 28 ... "My Lord and my God!"*

***Isaiah 53:3** — 3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.*

***Luke 19:41** — 41 Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it,*



***Luke 22:43-44** — 43 Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. 44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*

***Psalms 56:8** — 8 You .. Put my tears into Your bottle; Are they not in Your book?*

***Hebrews 4:15-16** — 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

***Isaiah 53:4** — 4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows;*

***Hebrews 2:17-18** — 17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.*

God is too good to be unkind, too wise to be mistaken; and when you cannot trace His hand, you can trust His heart.

Charles H. Spurgeon

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