

Seeing Through The Fire [concluded]

by Thomas Keese

[Continued from page 315201](#)

Preparing For Trial

I have encountered and continue to encounter brothers and sisters in Christ who deal with adversities far greater than mine. I recently heard it said that physical pain is easier to endure than emotional pain. I firmly believe that's true. You may be dealing with the death of a loved one or the unfaithfulness of children who have turned their back on the Lord. The best time to prepare for adversity is before it occurs. If you have not dealt with severe trials like this, it's only a matter of time.

- **Memorize Scripture**

The best way to receive comfort from God's Word is to have it stored up in your heart. Just listening to the Scriptures being read or to sermons has brought me great comfort during my darkest hours.

- **Develop A Habitual Life Of Prayer**

It should be of great comfort to us that God has encouraged us to bring our problems before His throne. Philippians 4:6-7, with many other passages, urges us to pray about those things that are causing us worry. To me it is so humbling to realize that our God who has created universes and solved problems so much more complex than what we are dealing with wants us to bring our problems to Him.

Conclusion

In Daniel chapter 3, Daniel's three friends had every confidence that God, if He so chose, could deliver them from their fiery trial (Dan. 3:6-30). Yet they also realized that He might not choose to deliver them. Facing the prospect of a very painful death, they saw through the fire. Likewise, we also must look past our trials of this earth which are so minuscule in comparison to our reward in heaven.

Editor's Note: Thomas Keese is a great man of faith who has learned much about life through the adversity of multiple sclerosis. His wife has just recently been diagnosed with cancer. Together, they have raised two sons who are fine young men of faith. Thomas has done quite a bit with his life since contracting this disease, and he has tried to use his skills in computer science to help brethren. His good wife has stood by his side for all these years, and is an excellent example to all Christian women. Please pray for them at this difficult time of life.

315202