



# CAPITOL COMMISSION

## Understanding Trials – Final Review

JULY 9, 2010

REV. MATTHEW BARNES / [WWW.CAPITOLCOM.ORG](http://WWW.CAPITOLCOM.ORG)

*“If you believe that God exists to make you comfortable or happy, He will seem absent in times of trial. However, if you believe that God exists to make you holy you will feel His arms around you like a painting feels the artist!”*  
- James MacDonald

*“It is doubtful that God can use a man greatly until He has wounded him deeply.”* - A.W. Tozer

### 1) God is never more present than when His children are suffering.<sup>1</sup>

A) Christ is an **Experienced Sufferer** that identifies.

*1 Peter 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.*

*Philippians 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;*

B) Christ is an **Attentive Counselor** that listens.

*James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

*Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

C) God is a **Loving Father** that disciplines.

*Hebrews 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?*

*Proverbs 3:11-12 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction: For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.*

D) Christ is a **Faithful Friend** that sustains.

*2 Corinthians 12:9 And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

*John 15:13-15 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.*

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<sup>1</sup> James MacDonald

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### BIBLE STUDIES

CHAPEL SERVICES: THURSDAY @ 12:10-12:35 P.M.  
STAFF/LOBBYIST BIBLE STUDY: FRIDAY @ 12:30 P.M., CHAPEL ROOM