

SPRING TEACHING SERIES 2023

HOW TO FACE ADVERSITY

FROM A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE



• “How Do You Respond to Adversity” Pt. 1

Pastor Oscar Chavez

HOW TO **FACE**
ADVERSITY



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To understand adversity...

1. What is adversity?
2. Where does adversity come from?
3. What is the purpose of adversity?



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• **1 Peter 4:12-14**

12 Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. 13 Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering,



• Two different reactions:

1. Our natural reaction during adversity

2. God's desired reaction during adversity

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

A. Doubt God.

- Mark 4:38

- ³⁸ *Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, “Teacher, don’t you care that we’re going to drown?”*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

B. Fear.

Mark 4

- ⁴⁰ *Then he asked them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

C. Give up

- Hebrews 10:23

- ²³ *Let us hold tightly without wavering **to the hope we affirm**, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

C. Give up

- Hebrews 10

- ³² *Think back on those early days when you first learned about Christ. Remember how you remained faithful even though it meant terrible suffering.* ³³ *Sometimes you were exposed to public ridicule and were beaten, and sometimes you helped others who were suffering the same things.*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

C. Give up

- Hebrews 10

- ³⁴ *You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. **You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever.***

1. Our *natural* reaction to adversity.

C. Give up

- Hebrews 10

- ³⁵ *So do not throw away **this confident trust in the Lord**. Remember the great reward it brings you!*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

- *¹Then the Lord gave these instructions to Moses: ²“Order the Israelites to turn back and camp by Pi-hahiroth between Migdol and the sea. Camp there along the shore, across from Baal-zephon.*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

- *³ Then Pharaoh will think, ‘The Israelites are confused. They are trapped in the wilderness!’ ⁴ And once again I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will chase after you*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

- *4 I have planned this in order to display my glory through Pharaoh and his whole army. After this the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord!*” So the Israelites camped there as they were told.

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

- ¹⁰ *As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the Lord, ¹¹ and they said to Moses, “Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness?”*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

- *Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? ¹² Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'"*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

• 13 *But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. 14 The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

• *16 Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. 17 And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites.*

1. Our natural reaction to adversity.

D. Negativity

Exodus 14

My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. 18 When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the Lord!”

For now remember:

1. Remember God's promises "Faithfulness"

Jeremiah 29

- ¹¹ *For I know the plans I have for you,* says the Lord. *"They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."*

For now remember:

2. Remember God's power.

- Exodus 14

17.... *My great glory will be displayed*



For now remember:

3. Remember God's presence

• Exodus 14

13 But Moses told the people, “Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. 14 The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.”

For now remember:

- 4. Remember God's work in the past



• Matthew 11:28.

28 *Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."*



2. God's desired reaction during adversity.

Persevere.

Luke 8:13

“Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; – “but these have no firm root; they believe for a while **in the time of testing** they fall away



“Time” is *kairos*, it’s not *chronos*.

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- James 1:3

- ³ For you know that when “your faith is tested”

- Job

- “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.”

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- 2 Chonicle 32:31

- *God left him only to test him, that he might know all that was in his heart.*

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2. God's desired reaction during adversity.

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