

## HOW TO RESPOND TO PROBLEMS

The TRUTH is always wisdom that comes from above and it never contradicts God's Word. Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE. When problems come we must be slow to anger and slow to speak so we can test ourselves before we choose to act on a problem. We must be teachable and be willing to test ourselves to see if we are walking in the Spirit or responding according to the flesh. Since we want to receive LIFE in every situation, it is worth taking the time to insure we are walking according to the Spirit of God. Those who respond according to the flesh reap death and destruction.

Even if we make a mistake, we can step back, repent and get forgiveness and get right back in the Spirit and not be under condemnation. We don't want to allow pride and haughtiness to rob us of the blessings that will follow our obedience. It is worth dying to self to reap the rewards. Jesus endured the cross for the JOY that was set before Him. IF we do not grow weary in doing good we WILL reap the reward of the JOY set before us. Sometimes it may seem like we suffer unjustly and wrongly and vindication is slow in coming. Don't doubt and don't fear God will reward you. Don't grow weary in doing good because God commands us to overcome evil by doing good.

### ***Rom 8:1-2***

**There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.**

### ***Rom 8:3-14***

***For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors-- not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.***

We are the SONS OF GOD and we Walk by the Spirit. When we are led by the Spirit we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. It does not mean we will not have problems. Problems will always come up, but it is how we deal with the problems that separate us from the ways of the world. God's Ways are higher than our ways and His Way is a way of LOVE and LOVE never fails. As Christians we still have problems, but no longer do the problems have us.

We have the fruit of the spirit to measure our response to let us know if we are responding according to the flesh or according to the Spirit. Now I want to give you some tactics from God's Word that will get your THROUGH the problem.

It will help to remember that the problems are first ALWAYS temporary. Never do we see a problem as a force that will change our eternal destiny or relationship with God. A problem is only a TEST to see if we really do TRUST God and BELIEVE His Word. We prove we BELIEVE His Word when we choose to respond to the problem according to His Word. We choose to obey God's Ways instead of the ways of the world. It is an act of love towards God to obey His Word because He KNOWS we LOVE Him because we OBEY Him.

I want to give you some scriptures to memorize and apply to every problem and then God will make your way straight as you go THROUGH the problem. Going through the problem as this scripture describes.

**Ps 23:4-6**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

No matter what problem you are faced with God is with you and His Rod and His Staff comfort you. On earth, God blesses you in the presence of your enemies, He fills you with His Spirit until rivers flow out of your belly and goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your life because you choose to dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Every problem that you GO THROUGH offer the sacrifice of praise to God and give thanks in everything.

**1Thes 5:18**

**In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

**Heb 13:15**

**Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.**

**Rom 12:2**

**And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

Now that you know in your heart you get to GO THROUGH the problem and will not always have the problem begin your prayer and supplication to God without being anxious or fretting. Fretting ALWAYS leads to wrong doing. Memorize the scripture and act on it daily.

**Phil 4:6-8**

**Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-- meditate on these things.**

Example Prayer: Father in the name of Jesus I choose to trust you with \_\_\_\_\_, I submit my prayer and supplication asking you for the wisdom to do what you would have me to do in this situation. I give you thanks and praise for hearing and answering my prayer and supplication. I thank you for Your peace which will guard my heart and my mind. I bind myself to Your Word and loose the Holy Spirit to take total control of this problem and I trust that you will make my path straight. In Jesus Name Amen.

Do not stop petitioning the Lord if you do not have the peace. The peace is supernatural and it is from God and His peace will guard your heart and your mind as you place this problem on the alter of God. If you do not have the peace, stay in prayer seeking God's Wisdom until you get the peace. Be willing to forgive in every situation and be willing to allow God to expose any wrong thinking that you may have. Humility and being teachable will get your THROUGH the problem a lot faster.

Remember Christians have problems, but no longer do the problems have you.

Once you have given the problem to God and you feel God's peace remain sensitive to God leading you. Always test your thinking before you act on what you think. Don't act on negative thinking. Take your mind captive to God's Word. Test all wisdom with the scripture below. If the wisdom does not produce Godly fruit and it exalts itself above God's Word, then cast it down as a vain imagination.

**James 3:17-18**

**But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. 18 Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.**

If you will practice this every day for every problem, it will become "normal" behavior for you and the problems may come, but you won't "feel" them any more. The problems may even get bigger, but you are stronger and bigger in the Spirit so the problems become easier to deal with.