## DEEPER TEACHINGS (MEAT OF THE WORD) #56

## THE GLORY OF TRIBULATION By Sam Fife



According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

1Co 3:10

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Rev 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Rev 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that **overcometh** shall not be hurt of the second death.

Rev 2:17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth *it*.

Rev 2:26 And he that **overcometh**, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Rev 3:5 He that **overcometh**, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Rev 3:12 Him that **overcometh** will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, *which is* new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and *I will write upon him* my new name.

Rev 3:21 To him that **overcometh** will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Zec 13:7 Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man *that is* my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. 8 And it shall come to pass, *that* in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off *and* die; but the third shall be left therein. 9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they

shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It *is* my people: and they shall say, The LORD *is* my God.

Several months ago the Spirit of the Lord began dealing with me, and revealing to me a Truth that He made me aware was one of the most important Truths to God's people in this hour, that only through knowing this Truth would they be prepared to face what was coming upon them in the earth - in this, the end of the age. The Lord then told me to begin ministering a message to His people on this Truth, and I have ministered it in several places: a message titled, "The Glory of Tribulation." Now, you will notice I did not say a message titled, "Glorying In Tribulation," but, "The Glory of Tribulation."

The Truth concerning glorying in tribulation is no new Truth to us, in the end-time move of God. Several years ago, God began ministering to us that we must come to the point where we could glory in our tribulations; and for several years many of us have been seeking to come to that point. But God has shown me that it is very hard for us to ever hope to glory in tribulation, unless we can let the Spirit of God give us a revelation of the glory of tribulation. It is very hard for God's people to see that there is anything glorious about tribulation at all. Very few have seen that the Word of God reveals that God has delegated to that life experience called tribulation a glory that transcends and is greater than the glory of any other life experience that we could possibly have on this earth, or in the universe. And it is because God's people have never received from the Spirit of God a revelation of the glory that God has delegated to that life experience called tribulation, that when they see it beginning to come their way, they want to run from it or find some way to get around it, or some hole to crawl into to escape it; instead of running joyously toward it; knowing that it is the express and glorious provision that God has made for them to enter into eternal, incorruptible Life.

When God's people begin to see, by revelation from the Word of God, that whatever trial, whatever test, whatever tribulation they are brought to in their life no matter how severe or how serious, or how apparently terrible, that it is the most glorious provision of God for their fives that they could possibly ever experience: then they will no longer draw back; then they will no longer cringe in fear; then they will no longer look for a direction in which to run away from the trial and the test and the tribulation: but they will run joyously toward it, shouting with the Apostle Paul, "I glory in tribulation, knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience worketh experience, and experience worketh hope, and hope maketh not ashamed!"

The reason so few of God's people have ever seen the glory of tribulation is because they have not yet come to a clear enough understanding of God's Word, to see that the Bible makes it very clear - it is only through much tribulation that we can enter into the Kingdom of God; and that Tribulation Highway is the only road that God has provided for us to enter into the Glory, and the eternal life that is given to us in Christ Jesus. And therefore, if Tribulation Highway is the road to Glory, then certainly tribulation must be glorious. If the experiences of Tribulation Highway are the only possible road and means that God has provided for us to enter into that eternal Glory that He has ordained for us; then certainly we must wake up and recognize that tribulation is the most glorious provision that God has made for mankind; and that whatever trials tests, troubles, tribulations appear before us in our lives: since they are the means the road, the highway by which God has ordained for us to enter into the eternal Glory that is prepared for us, certainly then, those experiences must be the most glorious life experiences that we could ever come to.

When one comes to understand and accept the Truth that is revealed to us in God's Word, there can be no question in their mind that the Bible makes it very clear that there is no possible way for us to enter into the eternal Glory that God has provided for us, except by traveling down Tribulation Highway. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church in his day,

as recorded in the book of Acts, and stated very clearly, "Did I not teach you while I was with you that through much tribulation we must enter into the Kingdom of God." Then in the seven letters to the seven Churches, Jesus, in revealing that seven-step road that God, has provided for us to travel in order to enter into our Glory, makes it very clear that every one of the seven steps of that road are simply seven great tests of trial, and tribulation, and overcoming; as He says, seven times, to him that overcometh, to him that overcometh, to him that overcometh, to him that overcometh him that overcometh to him that overcometh to him that overcometh that I grant to sit with Me in My Throne, even as I have overcome, and am set down with My Father in His Throne.

In this great revelation of the seven-step road that God has set before us, which is the road to our Glory, Jesus makes it very clear that each step is designed to bring us to the supreme test, the supreme trial that will test, at that level of our growth, every ounce of the strength of the new Life that has been brought forth in us; and it will take every ounce of that new Life in order to be able to go through that trial, and that test, and that tribulation. And that only through facing such tests seven times can we enter into the eternal Glory that God has provided for us.

One of the most important Scriptures in the Word of God, that is the key to the eternal purpose God is working out in us, in Christ, is the one which says, "Deep calleth unto deep." Through our New Birth, God has implanted the deepest depths of His own Person and Being, deep within our Spirit. Therefore, deep down in the depths of the Christ Nature that has been birthed in our Spirit, is the very Almighty Omnipotence of God Himself. In other words, each one of us who are in Christ Jesus have the deepest deep of God's Omnipotence within us. But since Omnipotence, which is Almightiness, can only be made manifest by proving itself against the supreme test, and the supreme trial, and the supreme struggle; therefore, this Omnipotence that

has been planted deep within us, and the Christ Nature that's birthed in us, can only come forth and be made manifest, yea, it can only be brought forth and made manifest through trial and test and tribulation which demands that overcoming, absolute power of Omnipotence that has been planted within us. It is for these reasons that trial, test, and tribulation are the instruments that God has provided to draw out of us, and call forth that deep which is God's Omnipotence, and make it manifest through us as the Sons of the Living God.

It is for this reason that Jesus makes it very clear that the Overcoming Road, or Tribulation Highway, is the only road that we can travel in order to enter into our Glory. Therefore, it is obvious to all whose eyes are opened, that tribulation is glorious: that, though few carnal men realize it, it has a glory delegated to it by God that transcends all other forms of glory that men can experience in this universe.

Our Scripture in Zechariah 13 takes us into a deeper depth of understanding of this great mystery, even than the seven steps of overcoming in Revelation 2 and 3. It begins with God speaking through the prophet Zechariah, and calling for the sword against His own shepherd, saying, "Awake, 0 sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow." If we did not understand the glorious but mysterious Truth, that our God has chosen to make every step of the road that we walk into eternal Glory as hard as we can possibly bear, in order to bring forth the Omnipotence that is within us, we would never be able to understand the God that is revealed here in Zechariah 13. "What kind of God," our natural mind would ask, "would call for the sword to come against His own shepherd, and against the man who is His friend and His fellow? What kind of a Friend," our natural mind would ask, "would call for the sword to come against him who is His closest fellow and friend?" If we did not understand the glorious but mysterious Truth that only struggle, and trial, and tests, and overcoming, and tribulation can bring forth Omnipotence; and for this cause, God has made Tribulation Highway our road to Glory, our natural

mind would search and search forever, trying to figure out why anyone would call for the sword to come against one who was the faithful shepherd of His sheep, and also His closest friend. What is presented here, in this Scripture in Zechariah, is One who is Lord and Master over a great sheep ranch; and who has a faithful shepherd that has given himself faithfully to watch over his Master's sheep. Not only that, he is his Master's closest friend and fellow. And yet, to the amazement of the natural mind, we hear the Lord of this great sheep ranch calling for the sword to come against His shepherd, and His friend, and His fellow. For those who, perhaps, do not have understanding of the true meaning of this Scripture - in order to understand it, one needs to read in one of the Gospels where, the night that Jesus was arrested, as He was about to go into the garden of Gethsemane, He turned to His disciples - in Matthew 26:31 - and told them that, in a little while, when they came to arrest Him in Gethsemane, all of them would be offended because of Him, and would turn, and scatter, and run away from Him: for He said, "It is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered." Thus revealing that the fulfilment of the Scripture in Zechariah 13:7 was about to be accomplished in Him; and that when God spoke through the Prophet and said, "I will smite the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered," He was referring to the smiting of Jesus, Himself - His own chief Shepherd, and Fellow - on the cross of Calvary.

And so, only when we have understanding of the mysterious but glorious Truth that God has designed and purposed to make the road by which we enter into our Glory a hard one - while almost too hard for us to accept - can we understand why any God would smite His own shepherd, and call for the sword against His own fellow and friend. But then, as we continue to follow through on the Tribulation Road that is revealed to us in these Scriptures in Zechariah, it gets worse as we go along. For this great Lord of the sheep ranch goes on to say that not only will He smite His

shepherd and the man who is His fellow, but He will scatter His own sheep. And again we are brought face to face with the question, what kind of a God would not only smite His own shepherd, but then turn against His own sheep and begin to confuse and scatter them? - and especially when we understand that the sheep spoken of here refer to us. So often as we have traveled up this Tribulation Highway we have had it happen to us, as it happened to Peter and the disciples that night in the Garden of Gethsemane. After spending three years with Jesus, and seeing the hand of God's blessing and power upon Him mightily again, and again, and again; suddenly, as they see Jesus arrested and taken to the cross, and a crown of thorns placed upon His head; and His back beaten bloody with the bloody scourge; and they, themselves, scattered and thrown into confusion: they ask themselves, "What has happened? How is it that when the hand of God has been so mightily upon Jesus all these three years, and performed so many mighty miracles through Him, does He seem now not only to have forsaken Him, but to be bringing His own hand, and calling for the sword against Him, Himself." And so they were confused, scattered, all their concepts about what God was doing were brought into confusion; and they were no longer certain that the hand of God was with either Jesus, or them, at all: but were simply confused, scattered, sheep, asking themselves, "Why would God, who has been so blessed to us up to this point, allow all this to happen?"

How often have we come to that place in our own experience, as we've traveled down Tribulation Highway, because we have not understood the glorious but mysterious Truth that it is the purpose of our Father to make our road to Glory such a hard one that it will bring forth and make manifest the Omnipotence that is planted within us. Therefore, when we have come to great tests, great trials, great tribulation, great troubles - we too have wound up confused and scattered, and asking ourselves, "Why would our Father allow such things to come to pass, and why does

it seem to us that the hand of God, Himself, is against us?" And so we also, have wound up confused and scattered sheep: not knowing that the purpose of it all, in the wisdom of our Father, is that we might come to the place where the way is so hard that we might be brought to the end of ourselves, and realize that we cannot walk it in our own wisdom and our own strength; therefore, yield ourselves to Him in helplessness, that the very hardness of the way might bring forth in us the Omnipotence and the overcoming power that He has planted within us, in our New Birth.

For that which He has planted within our Inner Man cannot come forth as long as we are trying to walk The Way in the strength and wisdom of our outer man.

Now, as we continue through the Scriptures in Zechariah, this Lord of the sheep ranch seems to make the way even more confusing and harder yet, as we hear Him say, "Not only I will smite the shepherd and the sheep shall be scattered," but then He goes on to say, "I will turn Mine hand upon the little ones." When we come to this, our carnal mind almost asks, "How impossible can it get? To follow such a One - who will smite His own shepherd and His friend, scatter His own sheep, but then go on to turn His hand upon His own little ones - upon the little lambs that are in His flock." But even then, as it gets almost unbelievable, we hear Him go on to say, "And it shall come to pass that in all the land, two parts therein shall be cut off and die, but the third part shall be left ' "

For one who has not been given understanding, by the Spirit of Revelation, of the glory of tribulation, by having God reveal to him the glorious Truth of God's purpose for making the way so hard that the Omnipotence within us might be brought forth through testing, they would certainly turn back from following such a God, at this point. Not only is He going to scatter His own sheep; but He is going to turn His hand upon the little ones of His sheep - the lambs, as it were - and cut off two thirds of His flock, that they may die. Let me say that before I had understanding of God's purpose,

in my carnality I used to read this and I used to think that the two thirds that were referred to here were the lost people of the world, and that it did not refer to God's people at all. I was perfectly willing to accept the idea of God cutting off two thirds of the population of the world, who had rejected Christ and were lost, and letting them die; as long as I, myself, could be among that one third that was left. But I sustained a real shock when the Spirit of God showed me that this two thirds here made no reference to the lost people of the world at all, but to God's people, who would be still in the little ones realm. For all the way through, from the time He says, "Awake, 0 sword, against My shepherd," through Him saying, "I will scatter My sheep, and turn My hand upon the little ones," it is obvious from the context of the Scripture, that He is talking only about His flock; and that it has no pertinence or reference to the lost people, at all.

And then, of course, I was brought face to face with the theological problem as to why a good God, a loving Father, would say, "I am not only going to smite My shepherd, and scatter My sheep; but turn My hand upon the little ones, and cut off two thirds of them; that they might die." It was not until the Spirit of God repeated to me that God's ultimate purpose is to bring forth out of supreme trial and testing and tribulation, a group of overcoming Sons of God who through facing and overcoming the severest trials and tests and tribulations - would have brought forth and made manifest the Omnipotence that He planted within them at their New Birth, did I have the answer to this question. It was only then that the Spirit of Revelation began to show me the cutting off of these two thirds of the little ones was one of the greatest manifestations of God's grace and love, and loving provision for His people, that has ever been revealed. One can only understand this when they read the next line, which says, "I will bring the third part through the fire." Only through that line did the Spirit of Revelation begin to show me that this two thirds that were cut off and died referred to those Christians in this end of the age that God

will allow to die physically, or be slain, and to into heaven; and there be dealt with by the Lord - simply because He knew that they would be too weak to stand the fiery test that the one third that was left would go through in order to come forth as those overcoming, Omnipotent, Sons of God through whom the Lord will rule and reign over this earth. suddenly came to see that the thousands of Christians who will be caught napping when the one-world beast government comes to power; because they were not walking close enough in the Spirit to hear the voice of the Spirit of God to move out, and will be slain in mass numbers: that the whole thing is not one great tragedy, but a manifestation of the loving provision of God for them, to take them on into the heavenly realms; because He knew they would not be able to face the fiery test that was to come to the one third that remained.

One cannot understand this until they understand that the purpose of God is to separate all of the weak, through the hardness of The Way, so that those who finally make it to the end will be only those who have proved themselves overcomers in all things; and therefore, have proved themselves worthy to rule God's world and God's universe. Then, as we – in the Scriptures in Zechariah - follow this Tribulation Highway to the end, we hear God say, in verse 9, "And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried." It is at this point that we begin to catch a revelation of the purpose of it all; and we begin to see the glory that is at the end of this Tribulation Highway. At last, it begins to dawn upon us that those who cannot stand the final fiery test that will purge out every last vestige of dross; and bring forth, in the end, only those who have had wrought in them, through the purifying fires, the gold – the perfection - of His own incorruptible Nature.

You will notice that the Word of God here reveals two great testings for the one third that is left, and that it reveals two degrees of heat of the fire that they are to go through: for He first says, "I will refine them as silver is refined," and then after that, He says, "I will try them as gold is tried." Of course, everyone knows that the only way that the dross that is hidden in silver and gold can be revealed is by putting the fire under it and applying such heat that it is brought to the melting point; so that the dross then comes to the top, and can be skimmed off. Of course everyone also knows that it takes a higher degree of heat to bring gold to the melting point than it does silver. Therefore God reveals that the third part that is left shall be taken through fires of testing with heat that is comparable to that which is required to melt silver, that the dross in it might be revealed.

Then, when they have passed that test, there will yet be other fire in front of them to bring them to a higher degree of heat: that which is required to bring gold to the melting point, so that the dross in it might also come to the top.

When applying these natural metaphors to the mystery of God, one must first understand that silver, when it is used in the Scripture, being the medium of exchange in this earth which is one point inferior to gold, is a symbol of the Christ Nature; which is inferior only in one point to that incorruptible Nature of the Father God. The Nature that Christ had when He was here was a Nature that could be tempted, but the Nature of Father-God is a Nature that cannot be tempted. Therefore, what this reveals is that the one third of us who are left, when we have grown up to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ, and go forth, as the manifested Sons of God in the silver Nature, the Christ Nature then brought to its full stature - as Jesus was when He went forth in His manifested Son ministry - during the tribulation, will then be brought to the test of fire, comparable to the heat that is required to bring silver to the melting point: to test us, to see if there is any dross left in our Christ Nature, or if we have really had all flesh purged out so that we are manifesting only Nature of the Son.

But when we have passed that test, as Jesus did in His own manifested Son ministry: tempted by Satan in the wilderness, to see if he could bring forth from the Son any dross; after being tempted by the people, to allow them to make Him their earthly king; and going through all the tests of silver when He had passed them all, and had come into such a oneness and union with His Father, that the gold was manifested in Him - then the heat was turned up a little more; and He was brought to the final test, of laying His very life on the line, to prove Himself obedient to the will of His Father unto the suffering of death; and the heat was applied that can bring gold to the melting point: so it was with our pattern Son - so it will be with us. When we have grown up to that stature of Christ, where God has allowed us to be tempted in the wilderness, as Jesus was; when God's people have tempted us, and sought almost to take us by force, to make us their earthly king - because of the anointing that is upon us - as they did Jesus; and we have passed all the silver tests of the Son: then we will finally be brought to the point where the heat will be turned up; and the fire that can test gold will be set before us; and a one-world beast system will bring us to the point where we will be forced to lay our lives on the line: to prove ourselves obedient to the will of our Father, unto the suffering of death.

So that we shall not only be refined as silver is refined; but we will be tried as gold is tried. The purpose of it all, of course, will be to reveal if there is yet any dross of that old Adam nature left in us that needs to be brought to the top, skimmed off. I have seen, through my own experience in my many years of walking with God; that just as the dross that is in gold cannot be seen, until it is put in the fire and the heat is turned up; so the things that are not of God, and of the Nature of God, that are deep within His people -are never made manifest until they are put under pressure. When all is going well, and the heat is not on; God's people can manifest the sweetest, tenderest, most soothing, Christ-like and Godlike attitudes - that are really not a manifestation of the perfection of God – that one could ever desire. But when they get in the fire, and when the heat is turned up: then it is

that the susceptibility to temper, betrayal, lust, and all those other things that are hidden deep within, come forth and begin to be made manifest. God has long since brought me to the wisdom not to commit myself to any of God's people no matter how sweet or beautiful they may appear to be in the Spirit - until they have been in the fire with me, and I have seen how they have stood in the fire: fires of pressure and testing that come when we really put ourselves on the front line to fulfill any purpose of God.

The Bible records that there were those who believed every Word that Jesus preached, but He would not commit Himself to them, for He knew what was yet within them. The bare, stark Truth is set before us here, that God is not going to commit Himself fully to us until we have been through the supreme fires of testing and tribulation and overcoming which proves whether only the pure gold of His own Nature remains within us or not.

At the end of verse nine, in Zechariah thirteen, we find the glorious end of Tribulation Highway revealed to us. After saying, "I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried," God then says, "they shall call upon my name, and I will hear them, I will say, it is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God." We must get a clear understanding of who God is referring to here, not the little ones, not the two thirds that were cut off and died, but only that one third that remained, that has passed the supreme test of being refined as silver is refined, and tried as gold is tried: of them only does God say: "they shall call upon My Name, and I will hear them."

In order to understand that, one needs to understand the revelation God has given us in this end time; that when the term, Name of God or Name of Jesus, is used in the Word of God it doesn't refer to the word, "Jesus," but it is referring to the Nature: for the name is symbolic of the nature. Therefore, when God says here, "they shall call upon my name, and I will hear them," He means they shall call upon

My own perfect, true, incorruptible, immortal Nature that has been wrought in them; through walking down Tribulation Highway; and through finally being refined as silver is refined, and tried as gold is tried. It is of these that God says, "I will say, it is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God."

Therefore we see, when we see to the end of Tribulation Highway, and thereby see the Glory that shall be revealed, the reason Tribulation Highway is so glorious, is because the hardness of the way is designed by God to separate all the fearful, the unbelieving, and the weak, so that those who finally make it to the end of the road will have come forth in the pure, perfect, immortal, incorruptible Nature of God, Himself.

Those who see this great Truth in this end time will no longer tremble and fear, but will rejoice, as they hear the voice of God calling them to a life in the wilderness of supreme sacrifice and testing, where they face the sixty below weather of Canada; or the heat of the jungles of South America. Suddenly, the revelation will break through to them that those who finally make it out into that deepest wilderness place that God will take His people to; will be living in the most glorious place, and realm of life, that anyone could ever aspire to, for out there is that hidden wilderness place, they will be surrounded only by those who have passed the test of being refined as silver is refined, and tried as gold is tried. Therefore they will be surrounded by the sweetest, purest, most perfect fellowship -the dream of every child of God's heart - for the hardness of The Way, itself, on the way out; including sixty below weather - will have separated all the fearful, all the unbelieving, all the covetous, all the critical, all the jealous, all the sick, all the weakly - so that those who dwell around them will be those who manifest only the purity, and the perfection, and the love, of the Nature of God, Himself.

When one begins to understand this, he will truly begin to get a glimpse of the Glory of tribulation! We are told the

reason there are no serpents in northern Canada is because the cold kills them. The reason there are few bugs and insects is because the fifty and sixty below weather is more than they can bear. Northward, in the Scripture, has always symbolized the way of testing and tribulation. God is saying to His people in this hour, "You have compassed this mountain long enough. Turn ye northward." And as they press northward, along the way of testing and tribulation, all the "serpents" will be killed by the cold - the spiritual serpents -the little, conniving spirits that have wrought such havoc in the Body of Christ all these centuries. The bugs and the insects that have gnawed away at the tree of Life in God's people for so many centuries will perish in the cold and the hardness of The Way. So that, for those who finally endure to the end, as Jesus said - who make it to the end of the road - they will dwell in the midst of a fellowship that will be THE manifestation of the Glory of It was said of the children of Israel, in the Old Testament age, as they passed over Jordan into their promised land; that there were no sick and feeble among them. It shall be said of this people of God, who make it finally to the end of Tribulation Highway, that there were no sick and feeble among them!

Therefore, the Spirit of God has brought forth a chorus in this end-time move of God, taken from the words of the Apostle Paul that we sing to keep us ever mindful of the Truth. It goes:

> "Rejoice in your hope of Glory, And glory in your tribulation, Glory in your tribulation Knowing that it works in you. For tribulation worketh patience, And patience works experience, Experience worketh hope, And hope maketh not ashamed."

Actually, in the King James translation, in that last line there is a misrepresentation - for the original Scripture did not say, "hope maketh not ashamed," but what it really said was. "And God won't leave you embarrassed." Tribulation worketh patience, patience works experience, experience worketh hope, and God won't leave you embarrassed. What that really means is this: as we, who, in this end time have had our eyes opened - take the hard Way - The Way of testing and tribulation; as we prepare to leave our lovely homes in this Babylonish world system; and move out into a wilderness, in a life of sacrifice: our friends, our neighbors, our relatives - they all think we're fools in not taking the way of ease, and the way of comfort - and as we proclaim to them that this is The Way our God has provided to Glory, they laugh in our face, but the end of this Tribulation Road reveals that when we have traveled it to the end; they are the ones who will be brought to confusion of face. Our God will vindicate us. He will not leave us embarrassed. In the end, they will see that our Way was the road to Life, and they were the ones who were fools.

We would like to close by revealing to you the key Truth that is in this tremendous chorus. It begins with thy line, "Rejoice in your hope of glory," and then it goes on to say, "And glory in your tribulation." This reveals that the only thing that we should desire in this world, to rejoice in, is our vision of the hope of Glory that is set before us, and that will be ours when we come to the end of this Tribulation Highway. The Glory that is revealed in the Words of God, when He said, "Then they shall call upon my name, and I will hear them: and I will say, This is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God."

Therefore, the only thing that we should rejoice in, as we travel this road, is our vision of the hope of Glory that is set before us when we come to the end of the road. Then, if we want to glory in something, let us glory in the tribulations that we experience along the road that is going to bring us to the fulfillment of that vision of our hope of Glory.

In times past, we have wanted every little life experience that we had along the road to be what carnal man calls, "a good one." And we have wanted to rejoice in our present life experiences, instead of rejoicing in the hope of Glory that is set before us; and instead of glorying in the tribulations that God had provided to take us to that hope of Glory, we have wanted everything to be easy and comfortable, so that we could glory in that. But God, in these last days, is going to allow us to come into a position of understanding and Truth where we will no longer desire that our daily experiences be that which we can rejoice in now; but our total and continual rejoicing will be in the vision of the hope of Glory that is before us; and our glorying will be in the tribulations that we experience day by day; which are designed to bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of Glory.

Therefore, may God help each one of us to "rejoice in your hope of Glory, and glory in your tribulation; glory in your tribulation; knowing that it worketh in you; for tribulation worketh patience; and patience works experience; experience worketh hope; and God won't leave you embarrassed!" Amen, and Amen!