

AAA to the Rescue!

1 Peter 4:12-19



Triple A membership has its advantages. When we encounter vehicle trouble on the highway, we can simply dial a number and rescue is on its way. When believers encounter trouble in their journey through life, there are three A's that can help immensely:

1) Acceptance. We should not be taken by surprise when God allows us to suffer: “Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you” (1 Pet. 4:12). We need to learn to accept what God has allowed. He is our shield (Psalm 28:7), and nothing can enter our lives unless it passes through Him. “Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?” (Job 2:10) The trusting believer can even accept trials joyfully: “Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations [various trials]” (James 1:2; 1 Pet. 4:13).

2) Adjustment. When trouble comes, the child of God needs to adjust to the newfound difficulties. This is not easy, yet God's grace is sufficient for every situation (2 Cor. 12:9). The adjustment is made easier when we meditate on God's goodness and sovereign purpose to conform us to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:28-30). Remember that our present trial is very brief and light in view of eternity (2 Cor. 4:17; Rom. 8:18).

3) Attitude. What a wonderful thing to see believers go through difficult trials with sweet, trustful attitudes! What a testimony to the unsaved who observe! Paul and Silas could pray and sing praises in the midst of injurious treatment (Acts 16:25). The Apostles could rejoice that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name (Acts 5:41). Job was able to bless God even after losing possessions and his own family members (Job 1:21). John Huss amazingly sang while being burned at the stake. May we follow such excellent examples!

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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