Deliverance from Distress is Deliverance from Sin

Ge 32:7 Then Jacob was **greatly afraid and distressed**: and he divided the people that was with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands; Ge 35:3 And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.

Ge 31:42 Except the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had been with me, surely thou hadst sent me away now empty. God hath seen mine affliction and the labour of my hands, and rebuked thee yesternight.

2Co 4:8 ¶ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Zep 1:15 That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and **distress**, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, Re 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: 19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

1. The Nations need deliverance from distress

Isa 29:7 And the multitude of all the nations that fight against Ariel, even all that fight against her and her munition, and that distress her, shall be as a dream of a night vision.

Lu 21:25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

1. The Church needs Deliverance from distress

Lu 21:23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.

1. The Church needs Revival.

Professing believers need Deliverance from distress to have Revival. They need to clean up their lives, repent, and turn to God with a new commitment to follow Him as saints of old and go on to perfection, unto the fullness.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

John 1:16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

Eph 1:23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

1. Deliverance for Revival is the only answer for True Revival

Lu 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance <aphesis> to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty <aphesis> them that are bruised,

Eph 1:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness <aphesis> of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Col 1:14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness <aphesis> of sins:

Acts 2:38; 5:31; 10:43; 13:38; 26:18

Heb. 9:22

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. <aphesis>

Heb 10:18 Now where remission <aphesis> of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

1. Deliverance unto Revival is the only answer to the overwhelming problems of our society and world.
2. This world needs a Deliverance from sin unto Revival
3. Every distressed church needs a Deliverance from distress unto Revival
4. Every distressed soul needs deliverance from distress?
5. Jacob needed Deliverance from distress
   1. **T**he first move of revival is God's call to deliverance. 
      1. God called Jacob unto deliverance to revival.
      2. Jacob had not set a spiritual example before his children. He had not given them the needed spiritual and

moral guidance. He had often demonstrated a weak character before his children, seldom standing up to others for what he knew to be right (Genesis 27:11-12; Genesis 29:25-28; Genesis 30:1-4, [9](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+30%3A9); Genesis 31:19-20). He had lived a carnal, worldly life, and the impact upon his children was now being reaped. Jacob was heartsick, needing God to deliver him.

* + 1. Jacob had a deep sense of disobedience and backsliding. He had been back in the promised land for some nine or ten years, yet he had never taken time to go up to Bethel to fulfill his vow to God.

He vowed to worship God at Bethel (Genesis 28:20-22). There was no excuse for his continued disobedience, for Bethel was only a day's journey away, only some twenty to thirty miles. Right before entering the Promised Land, God gave Jacob a deep spiritual experience at Penuel (Genesis 32:22-32)

When he entered the Promised Land, he had an unusual sense of God's presence, and his responsibility to journey up to Bethel was bound to be fresh upon his mind. Yet he had settled down right beside Shechem and soon forgotten Bethel. He had neglected his vow to God. The growing and convicting power of God's Spirit was working on Jacob, convicting him of his disobedience and backsliding.

* + 1. Jacob was deeply distressed, He had allowed idolatry, the worship of other gods, within his own household (Gen 35:2).
    2. Jacob had not made God the Lord of his household, and he was now being forced to face up to his failure.

With all the trouble that had fallen upon him and his family, Jacob had to search and find out what was wrong, what had caused God to remove His protective hand from him. Jacob's conclusion was bound to be that the fault lay within his own heart and life, that he had been disobedient and backsliding. And now God was dealing with him in discipline.

* + 1. God had always been dealing with Jacob. God had never left him alone. It had just taken a long time for Jacob to face up to his failures. It took the crisis of the threatening attack of the surrounding nations.
    2. Jacob had gone to the Lord in prayer. He was broken and crying out to God for help and understanding.

In response, God spoke to Jacob telling him two things:

* + - 1. Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there:
      2. And make there an altar unto God
         1. an altar where he and his people could seek and worship the Lord

 2Chron. 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Isaiah 55:6 Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: 7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit" (Psalm 34:18).

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17).

For all those things hath mine hand made, and those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word" (Isaiah 66:2).

And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God for he is gracious and merciful slow to anger and of great kindness Jl 2:13

 Col 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: 1Th 1:10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come. 2Ti 3:11 Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me. 4:17 Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. Jude 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Re 12:2 And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and **pained to be delivered**. 4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

 Ge 35:2 Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, **Put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean**, and change your garments: 3 And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God, who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with me in the way which I went.

1. (35:2-3) The second move of revival is God's message. After God had spoken to Jacob, Jacob gathered his people together and proclaimed God's message to them. The message included five points.
   1. **Put away the strange gods that are among you,**
   2. **be clean**,
   3. and change your garments:
   4. 3 And let us arise,
   5. and go up to Bethel
      1. The people were to get rid of all their false gods (Genesis 35:2). this man of God had allowed idols, the worship of false gods, within his own household! These idols probably included...

• the gods taken by Rachel (Genesis 31:19, 30, 32-35).

• the foreign gods taken in the looting of Shechem (Genesis 34:27-29).

• the gods of his servants.

Jacob had no doubt taught his family about God and His promises, but he had failed to demand obedience in the worship of God. He had not made the Lord the God of his entire household. He was still allowing the worship of other gods right there in his own presence.

People today still hang on to the gods and idols of this earth? Remember, anything can become a god to us. Whatever consumes us—whatever we give ourselves to, whatever dominates us, whatever we look to for help, whatever we put before God Himself—that thing becomes a god or idol in our lives.

God's call is unmistakably clear and forceful: put away all the gods and idols in your lives.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth (Exodus 20:4). Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God" (Leviticus 26:1). De 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images" (Isa 42:8).

Romans 1:20-23

Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (1 John 5:21).

Acts 13:46 Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. 48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.

The apostles followed scripture; The outlines of the Gospel dispensation are founded in the law and the prophets; and they were now building the Church of God according to the pattern shown them in the Mount. In the things of God, no man nor minister should go farther than he can say, Thus it is written,

Isa 42:6 I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; 49:6 And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

* + 1. The people were to cleanse and purify themselves (Genesis 35:2). Put all sin out of their lives. This demand may have included some form of ceremonial washing, a washing that symbolized the fact that they were cleansing themselves from all sin.

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil Isaiah 1:16 Wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee? Jer. 4:14 Wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord (Acts 22:16). Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God (2 Cor. 7:1). If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work (2 Tim. 2:21). Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded (James 4:8).

* + 1. The people were to change their clothing (Genesis 35:2). This symbolized that they were putting off the old life of sin and putting on the new life of godliness.

2Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" (Ephes. 4:22-24). Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; and have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him" (Col. 3:9-10).

* + 1. The people were to go up to Bethel, the house of God, and seek God in worship (Gen 35:3)

They were to seek His face for forgiveness and deliverance. The entire household of Jacob, including all his workers and servants, were very much aware of the threat from the surrounding nations. They were far fewer in number than their neighbors, so they knew that it was going to take supernatural help if they were going to be saved and delivered.

Jacob's message was that sin had brought the trouble upon the household. The only hope for deliverance was to put all sin out of their lives and seek God for revival, seek Him with all their hearts and lives.

But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul Deut. 4:29

This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles Psalm 34:6

From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I Psalm 61:2

Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore Psalm 105:4

Jer 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened Lk 11:10

* + 1. Remember God's great deliverance in the past.

Jacob shared with his people how God had delivered him at Bethel, when he was fleeing for his life from Esau. Now, he reminded the people once again of God's great deliverance. The thought is that God would do it again. If the people would just go up to Bethel and seek God, God would deliver them from their present distress and trouble. God would give them a glorious revival, save and deliver them.

* + - * 1. God always delivers those who turn to Him.

God delivers us from all trouble and evil.

He shall deliver thee in six troubles: yea, in seven there shall no evil touch thee Job 5:19 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness Isaiah 41:10 When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee Isaiah 43:2 And he said, The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer 2 Sam 22:2 For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling Psalm 116:8

God delivers us from our enemies.

He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them which hated me: for they were too strong for me Psa 18:17

Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD Jeremiah 1:8

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence Psalm 91:3

God delivers us from all fears, even from the fear of death.

For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of the living? Psalm 56:13

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage Hebrews 2:14-15

I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears Ps 34:4

God delivers us from temptation and evil.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it 1 Cor. 10:13

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever 2 Tim. 4:18

The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished 2 Peter 2:9

God delivers us from pestilence and disease.

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence Psalm 91:3

1. (35:4) The third move of revival is repentance. They were convicted of their sins and aroused to seek God. They gave all their idols and earrings to Jacob and he buried the symbols of worldliness and idolatry under an oak tree near Shechem.

Repentance is when people turn away from their old life, give up everything that took their thoughts and hearts off God. They were ready to go to Bethel, the house of God, and seek God for their salvation and deliverance.

Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?" (Ezekiel 18:31). Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning" (Joel 2:12).

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7).

But if the wicked will turn from all his sins that he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die" (Ezekiel 18:21).

Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2).

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost

3:19Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord

8:22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee 2 Chron. 7:14 “turn from their wicked ways”

1. (35:5-7) Fourth move of revival is obedience to God and God's very special presence and deliverance. Jacob and his people had made the decision to obey God, to repent of their sins and go to Bethel.

1. Jacob went toward Bethel (Gen 35:5-6). The terror of God was upon the cities and God delivered Jacob. What Jacob feared might have been: the rulers of the surrounding nations were mobilizing to attack Jacob and his people.

2. Jacob and the people arrived at Bethel and Jacob built an altar there.

Jacob and the people obeyed God. They followed through with their decision to repent, to turn from their sins and to turn to God. They sought God at Bethel, at the house of God. They sought God for His forgiveness and deliverance and worshipped Him and Him alone. Gen. 28:20; 31:3,13

Jacob now is obeying his vow. It had been about ten years since he had returned to *the promised land*, he had not fulfilled his vow in going up to Bethel and worshipping there. God saved and delivered them by His mighty power.

Revival cannot come unless we obey God. If we are sincere in our decision to obey God, we *follow through* and God will save and deliver us.

He that endureth [follows all the way through] to the end shall be saved Matthew 10:22

Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us Hebrews 12:1

The righteous also shall hold on his way and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger Job 17:9

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth Hosea 6:3

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life John 8:12

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me John 10:27

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will [my] Father honour John 12:26

1. (35:8) **F**ifth move of revival is a new power to confront day-to-day trials. This is symbolized in the greatest of trials, death itself. Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died; and Jacob buried her under an oak tree.

How did Deborah come to live with Jacob? Scripture never mentions that Jacob visited his father, Isaac, after returning to *the promised land*. But Deborah's presence with Jacob is strong indication that he did.

Her presence with Jacob also shows that Rebekah, Jacob's mother, was dead. On one of Jacob's trips to his father's, he must have asked if Deborah could come to live with his family. Deborah had meant much to Jacob as a young man. She had nursed him as a baby and taken care of him through his childhood and teenage years. Since Scripture regards her death worth recording, she was probably a godly and wise woman who managed Jacob's household. She was perhaps a grandmother to Jacob's children as well as an advisor to him, perhaps counselling him during difficult and trying times.

Jacob gave to the oak tree where she was buried: *Allon Bacuth*, which means "the oak of weeping"

Jacob brought Deborah home to live with his family, strongly indicates a deep love between Jacob and her. The revival Jacob had just experienced had given new power to bear the trials of life—in this case, the loss of a loved one.

Revival will always give us a new strength to face whatever confronts us, even the worst trial and enemy of all, death.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me Psalm 23:4 Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints Psalm 116:15

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage Hebrews 2:14-15

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth Hebrews 11:13

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them Rev. 14:13

1. (35:9-12) **Sixth** move of revival is the renewal of God's promises to one's heart. God once again appeared to Jacob at Bethel and renewed His great promises to him.

1. God reconfirmed the new name Israel (Genesis 35:10). He had sought revival for himself and his people, and God had heard, giving them true revival.

Ge 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. { 03478. Yisra'el, yis-raw-ale' - he will rule as God - A prince of God}

2. God assured Jacob of His very special presence, the presence of *God Almighty* (El Shaddai). The name stresses God's power and sufficiency to meet every need that man can have. God was giving Jacob the absolute assurance of His presence and power throughout the remainder of his life.

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth Matthew 28:18 For with God nothing shall be impossible lk. 1:37 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us Ephes. 3:20 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy Jude 24 I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee Job 42:2

3. God reconfirmed *the promised seed* to Jacob, meaning a great nation of people Genesis 35:11

God added the words “a *company* of nations”

4. God reconfirmed *the promised land* (Genesis 35:12). Jacob's seed was to inherit the land of Canaan.

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ 2 Cor. 10:5

 God's promises are sure. The believer can rest and be assured of every promise God has made.

Blessed be the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant 1 Kings 8:56

And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform Romans 4:21

For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us 2 Cor. 1:20

Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust 2 Peter 1:4

**7.** (35:13-15) **S**eventh move of revival is private worship. When God finished renewing His promise to Jacob, He went up from the place where He had been speaking (Genesis 35:13).

Jacob set up a stone pillar and anointing it with oil. this was an act of dedication and consecration. Jacob set the place apart as a very special place of worship (Genesis 35:14).

Jacob thereafter publicly called the place *Bethel*. This means that he publicly, in the presence of other people, referred to the place as Bethel. He gave public testimony to the fact that God had met him at Bethel, at the house of God.

Revival, true revival, will always lead us to do two things.

1) Worship God privately.

Matthew 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone Luke 5:16 And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed

6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God

22:41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed,

Acts 10:9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour

30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing

2) Bear testimony to God's work in our lives.

Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I am he: before me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me (Isaiah 43:10).

Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul (Psalm 66:16).

My mouth shall show forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof Psa 71:15

With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth (Psalm 119:13).

And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning (John 15:27).

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard (Acts 4:20).

Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life (Acts 5:20).

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak" (2 Cor. 4:13).

These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee" (Titus 2:15).

Ex 34:6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

Nu 14:18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.

Ps 86:15 But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Jer 15:15 ¶ O LORD, thou knowest: remember me, and visit me, and revenge me of my persecutors; take me not away in thy longsuffering: know that for thy sake I have suffered rebuke.

Ro 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

Ro 9:22 What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction:

Eph 4:2 ¶ With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Col 1:11 Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

Col 3:12 ¶ Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

2Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

2Pe 3:15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;

Ac 13:47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth

1. All Deliverance is through Jesus Christ the Lord
   1. Jesus works all things to the praise of the Glory of His Grace

Eph 1:6 **To the praise of the glory of his grace**, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

* 1. Jesus worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. 2Co 5:5 Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.

* 1. **Jesus is all things to all people**

1Cor. 12:6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

15:28 And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all.

Eph 1:23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Col 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Eph 4:10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:

28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

29 Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

* 1. **Jesus can make us like Himself**

Ro 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

1Cor. 9:19 For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

22 To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

10:33 Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.

15:49 And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

2Co 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

4:11 For we which live are alway delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

Php 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Heb 12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

2Pe 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

1John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

2Co 4:8 ¶ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair;

Troubled - to crowd (afflict, narrow, throng, suffer tribulation, trouble)

on every side - all, any, every, the whole:--all (manner of, means), alway(-s), any (one), X daily, + ever, every (one, way), as many as, + no(-thing), X thoroughly, whatsoever, whole, whosoever.

NOT distressed to hem in closely, cramp:--distress, straiten.

Perplexed

to have no way out, be at a loss (mentally):-- (stand in) doubt,

NOT in Despair

to be utterly at a loss, despond:--(in) despair.

2Co 6:4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses,

2Co 12:10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

PLAYING WITH STRESS IS DISTRESSING, IT IS AS DAGEROUS AS PLAYING WITH FIRE