

The Chastening of the Lord (Part 2)

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Broadcast Dates: 9/4-9/5/25

Message Date: 4/23/23 ● 10:00 A.M.

Scriptures:

- Romans 8:28, *NLT*
- 2 Corinthians 4:17, *NLT*
- Hebrews 12:6-8
- Proverbs 3:11, 12
- 1 Corinthians 11:30-32
- Revelation 3:19
- Isaiah 53:4, 5
- Isaiah 53:3-9, 11, 12, *NLT*
- John 15:1-8, *NLT*
- James 1:2-4, *NLT*
- John 15:8
- 1 Thessalonians 1:2-9, *NLT*
- 1 John 3:2

Summary:

*There is considerable misunderstanding about what it means when God chastens us. He does this as a loving Father to correct and guide us, **not** to punish us. His chastening helps direct us toward righteousness, godliness, and complete dependence on Him. Punishment, which involves fear, doesn't figure into the covenant of grace, because it's not God's nature to punish. Punishment is a consequence of wrongdoing; however, Jesus took all the punishment we deserved when He went to the cross. We're guaranteed to encounter adversity and painful circumstances in life; God uses those things not because He is angry with us, but to grow and mature us. The next time we run into trouble, we can be thankful and joyful knowing that God loves us and cares enough about us to discipline us for our own good.*

Notes:

1. Whatever we go through and wonder why it's happening, God can use to accomplish His purpose. We mustn't let what's happening at the moment run us away from what God told us to do.
2. God's chastening is part of His plan to get us to the place He wants us to be. Chastening isn't God's punishment, but His loving way of teaching us to depend on Him.
3. The purpose of His chastening is to correct, direct, refine, and prune. As branches, every Christian undergoes pruning. Pruning shows us our faults and weaknesses so that we can grow and mature, ultimately becoming more dependent on God.
4. When God chastens us, it's part of the pruning process; it does *not* mean He has cut us off. As long as we remain branches in Him, we will continue to grow and flourish. Our lives will not increase without pruning.
5. God prunes us so that we'll bear more fruit, to assure that we're truly saved (He doesn't prune unbelievers because they'd only produce more dead works), and so we will glorify Him.

Category: grace

Keywords: chastening, chastens, loving, correct, guide, grow, mature, discipline