

Using Problem-Solving Devices to Endure Suffering Produces Blessings; Prayer Is Not a PSD but How the Basic Ones Work; Never Pray for Removal of Suffering

5. Consequently, if suffering were taken out of life, most blessings would have to be taken out as well.
6. Suffering is often an opportunity to learn how to function effectively in the Angelic Conflict. To develop capacity for suffering on the front lines of battle there must be Field Training Exercises. This suffering is God's grace provision designed to prepare the believer for bigger tests ahead.
7. It becomes apparent that removal of suffering is not a solution to the suffering. Suffering is the opportunity for believers to become *πρόμαχοι, promachoi*, front rankers in scrum of the Invisible War.
8. The weaponry for the Invisible War are invisible problem-solving devices stored in the soul. God intends for us to go through the suffering to victory, which is manifest by passing the test.
9. In suffering the solution to its challenges is not prayer but the function of your artillery deployed on the FLOT Line of the soul.
10. Prayer is powerful, is commanded, and is effectual, but it is not a problem-solving device. For example problems are not solved by asking God to remove them. Paul tired this regarding his "thorn in the flesh" in 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. But God's response was not removal of the thorn but rather, "My grace has been and still is sufficient for you."
11. Prayer is a means by which the basic problem-solving devices function, such as rebound for the filling of the Holy Spirit so that the faith-rest drill can be used effectively—claiming promises, recall of pertinent doctrine, and arriving at doctrinal conclusions.
12. Prayer is effective in the development of grace orientation as the believer petitions the father for instruction in divine wisdom, the subject of James 1:2-6.
13. The development of a grace mental attitude results in the advance to doctrinal orientation. This is where the believer starts drawing from a large reservoir of doctrines to apply to circumstances rather than simply citing verses.
14. At this point the believer has advanced to the environs of the sophisticated spiritual life. He is on the cusp of acquiring a personal sense of destiny where he becomes confident that he is in the plan of God and God is in control of his life.
15. The believer will not make it to this level of spiritual growth without suffering. And with this suffering he will put muscle on his faith and ultimately become invincible before any circumstance the devil's world puts in front of him.
16. Therefore, never pray that your suffering be removed. Never pray for miracles. God is in the miracle business. He still performs them but not in response to human prayers. His plan determines these things and thus a miracle would fall under the category of His overruling will and function under his sovereignty and omnipotence.