

Psalm 34 Season 2

How to Rejoice in Suffering



Scripture

- **Psalm 34:1; 18-22**

I will bless the LORD at all time; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. ¹⁸The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones, not one of them is broken. Evil shall slay the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned. The LORD redeems the soul of His servants, and none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

- **2 Timothy 3:12**

Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

Other Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
- Philippians 3:3-10
- Ephesians 2:6
- Matthew 10:29
- Revelation 20:11-15
- Luke 19:40
- Job 1:21

Main Points

1. When we belong to HaShem, he makes our brokenhearted experiences bittersweet
2. We experience God's tenderness in a deeper and richer way in hard times than when things are going well.
3. It is during hard times that Father God administers His grace, compassion, and love to us.

4. Fellowship is intimacy and closeness.
5. There is something that we can gain intimately by going through the same sufferings that Jesus went through.
6. When you are rejected for your faith, you will experience the closeness of God in a way that you can't experience any other way.
7. Your destiny is bigger than any difficulty you will go through.
8. God's grace and beauty touch every one of us, and we have to decide to live a life of praise to Him.
9. Jesus is the answer!

Questions

1. Can and should we expect to be able to have the same kind of testimony as David in verse 18 of Psalm 34? Tell why this is so.
2. What will we receive from God when going through deep waters and brokenness?
3. Discuss Paul's experience with his thorn in the flesh in Philippians 3? At the end of the day, what did he conclude about God's allowing him to suffer in this way?
4. If God is near to the brokenhearted, in what can we rejoice? Have you experienced His nearness in a time of tears?
5. What do you find encouraging about knowing that we are "more than conquerors" and that we are "seated in heaven with Christ Jesus"?
6. Write a response to Psalm 34 that you can pray back to God.