

[The Book of 2 Thessalonians](#)

Chapter 1

“Without pits please!”

[Return To
All Commentary](#)

When golf balls first went into mass production, the outer covering was smooth.

Soon afterward it was discovered that if the surface of the golf ball was rough and full of pits, you could get more distance from it.

Now, most of us would find that a little strange, it only seem logical that if the surface of the ball were smooth and without obstacles, it would flow through the air easier.

This is not the case however, because of the rough surface, a Gold ball will fly much farther than they ever could if the were just smooth.

Soon afterward they began to manufacture golf balls with the dimples that we see today

Now, many of us believe that life would be much better and that we could go much farther if there were just no pits or obstacles in our life.

“If life were just a little smoother, we would be so much better off.”

The reality though, is that any person who is trying to follow Jesus, those “Pits of life” and the roughness and difficulties that we often go through, cause us to go farther in our relationship with Jesus than we ever could without them.

It is because of the Lords great love for us, and because He is a Master potter, that he allows His clay to be stretched.

Sometimes He pounds on His clay a little, so that he can form it and shape it into the exact image that he created it to be.

We are His clay, through the trials and difficulties of our life, we are formed into the vessel of honor that He determined for us before the worlds were made.

Jesus knows exactly which course to take your life on, to grow you and make you into a happy and fulfilled person.

The journey that Jesus has chosen for you is far better than any one that you could have chosen for yourself.

You and I would choose a smooth surface, we would prefer **“No Pits”** in our life, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Isaiah 43:7

Everyone who is called by My name, Whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”

I love the way that The Holy spirit puts it in Isaiah 29

Isaiah 29:15-16

15 ... “The LORD can’t see us,” you say to yourselves. “He doesn’t know what is going on!”
16 How stupid can you be? He is the Potter, and he is certainly greater than you. You are only the jars he makes! Should the thing that was created say to the one who made it, “He didn’t make us”? Does a jar ever say, “The potter who made me is stupid”?

I think that sometimes we think the Lord doesn’t see what we are going through in our lives.

I think sometimes we think: “If He does know what I’m going through, then why does He allow this to happen in my life if He REALLY loves me?”

Such was the case at the Church of Thessalonica.

In 51 A.D., Paul founded this church, just 18 years after Jesus was crucified and Rose from the dead.

These two letter to the church at Thessalonica were most likely the first letters to the church that Paul ever wrote.

Paul wrote 1 Thessalonians to encourage the Christians there, and to answer questions that the church had about the second coming of Jesus. Paul had taught them that Jesus return would be sudden and unexpected.

2 Thessalonians was probably written just a couple weeks or months after 1 Thessalonians.

Timothy, had brought word to Paul that the Believers at the church in Thessalonica were going through some tremendous trials.

So difficult were their lives that some of them had died. The other believers there in the church wondered what was going to happen to these who loved Jesus but were gone now.

How were they going to participate when Jesus returned? What had happened to them?

Paul wrote 2 Thessalonians to explain the timing of Jesus return in a little greater detail and to explain that those who had died already believing in Jesus, were not going to miss out on the Rapture.

This is why it is so amazing to me that critics of the Doctrine of the Rapture of the Church can say that the Rapture is not even taught in the Bible.

This was the main purpose of Paul writing 1 and 2 Thessalonians, and it was most likely the first 2 letters he ever wrote!

So, Paul's message to the church, which includes us today is this: "Continue to live for Jesus and serve Him, no matter how difficult your life may become"

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2 Thessalonians 1-12

1 This letter is from Paul, Silas, and Timothy. It is written to the church in Thessalonica, you who belong to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **The first thing that the Holy Spirit** wants you to know is that if you are in Jesus today, then you belong to God.
- **Your life is not a long series of happenstance** and coincidences, every microsecond of your life, He has already planned it, seen it, knows what it coming, and has determined that nothing shall overcome or destroy you.

2 May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

- **Grace is the Greek word, "Charis"**, Peace is the Hebrew word "Shalom"
- **These were the traditional greetings** that people would say to each other, much like we say today, "How are you", or "How is it going?"
- **You will always see Grace before peace**, not one place in the bible is the order reversed.
- **This is because it is impossible** for you to have real inner peace until you first experience the Grace of God by knowing and understanding that Jesus came to remove all of your sins and you accept this fact and live your life to follow Jesus.
- **Apart from a personal relationship** with Jesus, you will never find lasting peace.

3 Dear brothers and sisters, we always thank God for you, as is right, for we are thankful that your faith is flourishing and you are all growing in love for each other.

- **This young church** was really growing because they had a real and personal relationship with Jesus.
- **They knew Jesus had forgiven them**, and that He was coming back for them any day.
- **When you really know these 2 facts**, and determine to live your life like you believe they are true, you will also be like the Thessalonians believers, "You are growing..."

4 We proudly tell God's other churches about your endurance and faithfulness in all the persecutions and hardships you are suffering.

- **There is one important characteristic** that the Thessalonians believers had: "They were remaining faithful and enduring the trials they were going through.
- **You will not be able to endure your trials** until you understand that they come into your life personally selected by the Lord for you.

Whatever you suffer, Jesus chose for you because He loves you so much.

- **That doesn't make a lot of sense to us**, because in this world we seem to relate difficulty with negative things.
- **Even in nature, as you observe** what the Lord has created, you see that he builds into his creation struggle.
- **Struggle creates strength**. Difficulties build character. Heartache and disappointment deflate human pride and give us humility before other people.
- **Paul was "proudly telling"** the other churches about the suffering of the Thessalonians Church.
- **There is something in us that is encouraged** when we hear that other people are also going through or have gone through things similar to what we are experiencing.

5 But God will use this persecution to show his justice. For he will make you worthy of his Kingdom, for which you are suffering,

6 and in his justice he will punish those who persecute you.

- **Notice the Holy Spirits choice of words here:** "God will use this persecution to show His justice..."

On that day when you are finally in the presence of the Lord, and as you observe His righteous judgment, you will know then and understand then, why He let you suffer, why He brought difficulty into your life.

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

- **When you are truly able to see Jesus for who He really is**, "A Righteous, Loving and Merciful Judge", then all of your questions as to WHY? will be answered.

7 And God will provide rest for you who are being persecuted and also for us when the Lord Jesus appears from heaven. He will come with his mighty angels,

8 in flaming fire, bringing judgment on those who don't know God and on those who refuse to obey the Good News of our Lord Jesus.

- **Notice in verse 7** that your difficulties are not going to last forever, sometimes when we are in the middle of them, it seems like they are never going to end.

"God will provide rest for you..."

- **For some of us**, that rest will not come until the rest of verse 7 comes true, "When Jesus appears from heaven..."
- **Some of us, will not get our healing** or deliverance or answer to our prayer, until we leave these bodies and are with the Lord.

- **But know this for sure**, “**God is going to provide rest for you...**” either very soon in your trial, or when He takes you home.
- **We get so short sighted sometimes** I think, we seem to forget that this life we are living is just “A vapor”, like the morning fog, only here for a short time.

James 4:14

whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

- **The Lord has placed a knowledge of eternity** in our hearts, in other words, we seem to know in our hearts that we are going to live forever, but how we get there, we don't have clue!
- **It is by the work of the Lord** in every second of your life from the beginning of your physical life, to the end of your physical life.
- **Notice that Ecclesiastes says** “**The work that God does...**” Jesus does the work in you, not you yourself.
- **You and I are only the participants**, the object of His work and the object of His love, **but the real work is done by Jesus in us.**

9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction, forever separated from the Lord and from his glorious power

- **Because we teach so often** the Love and the Grace of God, sometimes we forget the Judgment of God.
- **If you want to know how much God hates sin**, and just how seriously He views your sin, look at Jesus Cross.
- **The Father had to pay the highest cost** in the universe to pay for your sins. It cost the Father everything to forgive you.
- **To those who thumb their noses at Jesus sacrifice** and trample under their feet the blood that Jesus shed for them...

Hebrews 10:29-31

29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

30 For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The LORD will judge His people.”

31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

As verse 9 here in 2 Thessalonians says: “they will be punished with everlasting destruction forever separated from the Lord...”

- **It is important to understand** that Jesus spoke more often about Hell than He did heaven.

Jesus knew that Hell was a very real place.

- **It is not a place of annihilation** where people are completely consumed having no further feeling or existence.
- **Hell is a physical place**, where beings who have rejected the Love of God will Physically experience punishment forever.

In Luke chapter 16 Jesus Himself tells a chilling account of the man who died without receiving salvation, and was carried to Hell where He was conscious, alive, feeling torment and able to see, hear, feel and speak...

Luke 16:24-28

24 “Then he cried and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; **for I am tormented in this flame.**’

25 But Abraham said, “Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented.

26 And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.’

27 “Then he said, ‘I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father’s house,
28 for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.

There was once a man who when he was presented with the good news that Jesus had made it possible for any person to have heaven and the total forgiveness of all their sins said after he heard this...

“I just cannot believe that the death of Jesus on the Cross could pay for all of my sins, but let me tell you, if I did believe news like that, news that is so incredible, if I believed this I would crawl on my hands and knees across broken glass just to reach one person with this news...”

Think about it. If you reach someone with this news about what Jesus has done, you save that person from Hell! **How much is that worth to us!!!**

10 when Jesus comes to receive glory and praise from his holy people. And you will be among those praising him on that day, for you believed what we testified about him.

- **The day that Jesus rides out of heaven** and comes back to the earth with His judgment, you will be with Him.
- **That is, if you have accepted His offer** of forgiveness and are living your life for Him.

11 And so we keep on praying for you, that our God will make you worthy of the life to which he called you. And we pray that God, by his power, will fulfill all your good intentions and faithful deeds.

- “**And so we pray that you will be worthy of the life to which He called you.”**
- **Is that what it says?**
- **No!, it says** “That our God will make you worthy...”

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

- **It is Jesus working in your life** and your heart, through all of the things you suffer to accomplish His will in your life.

Oh if we could just understand that difficulties are as much a part of the Grace of God as are the things we count as good gifts.

12 Then everyone will give honor to the name of our Lord Jesus because of you, and you will be honored along with him. This is all made possible because of the undeserved favor of our God and Lord, Jesus Christ.

There are at least 10 purposes of the Trials that all of us who love Jesus, go through.

1. To Glorify the Lord through the trial.
2. To discipline us for a sin that we know we should turn from.
3. To prevent us from falling into potential sin.
4. To prevent us from becoming full of pride.
5. To build our faith and trust in the Lord.
6. To cause the greatest possible environment so that we can grow.
7. To teach us about discipline and obedience to the Lord.
8. To equip us, so that we can also be a comfort to others who are suffering.
9. To prove or show whether Jesus is really in us.
10. As a testimony to the Angels.

Let me ask you a couple of questions:

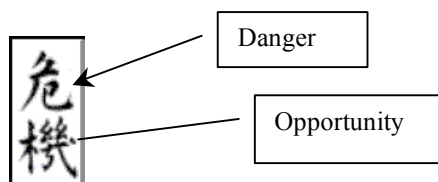
1. **When you squeeze a Lemon**, what do you get? Lemon Juice, right?
2. **When you squeeze an Orange**, what do you get? Orange Juice Right?
3. **When you squeeze a Christian**, what should you get? Jesus!

When we suffer and are squeezed by life, does the sweetness of Jesus personality come from us.

Or is it the bitterness and frustration of the flesh. Do we use the trial as an excuse to allow ourselves the permission to get involved in sin?

When you and I are squeezed by life, we should emit Jesus, His attitude, His responses, His love, His longsuffering and patience.

Most of you know that the Chinese language is made up of symbols



It is interesting that the word “Crisis” in Chinese is made up of two characters. The first represents “Danger”, and the second represents “Opportunity.”

- **Most often we see trials as “Danger”**, but we miss the truth of why the Lord brought them into our life to begin with.
- **They should also be seen as “opportunities”**.
- **Opportunities to really see the Lord work** in our life, opportunities to grow and be changed.
- **Opportunities to see myself** for who I really am when I am under pressure.

Galatians 5:13-16

13 **For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh,** but through love serve one another.

14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

15 But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another!

16 I say then: **Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.**

Let’s finish this morning study by talking about these 10 purposes of trials:

1. To Glorify the Lord through the trial.

Let me ask you a question: Do you want to see Jesus get glory for your life?

- **Then endure your trials** knowing that if you patiently endure it without complaining with an attitude of trust in the Lord, he will be Glorified.
- **But if you cry and complain and blame the Lord** for your trial, or if the trial drives you away from Jesus or into sin, He is not glorified from these.
- **Jesus can only be glorified** if you patiently endure the trial and trust Him through it no matter what happens.

1 Peter 4:16

Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.

2. To discipline us for a sin that we know we should turn from.

Some of us might be suffering a trial right now because the Lord is trying to get your attention.

- **If difficulty and trial has come into your life**, ask yourself the question: “**Have I allowed some sin in my life that I should not have gotten involved in?**”
- **If so, the moment that you change your mind** and turn from it, you will be forgiven, and cleansed and have blessing restored to your life.
- **If you have searched your heart** and know that there is not some sin you have been holding on to then your conscience is clear before the Lord.
- **If there is not a sin problem**, then the purpose of this trial is for some other reason, so don't keep beating yourself to death believing this is happening because you are such a miserable sinner.

John 9:2-3

2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.

3. To prevent us from falling into potential sin.

Hebrews 12:5-11

5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: “My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?”

8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

I think that often when we have been flirting with a sin, or getting close to giving ourselves to a sin, the Lord may put us into a difficulty to get our focus back on Him and off the Sin.

- **Again, ask yourself if this is the case in your life**, if it is, then just tell the Lord, “OK Lord I got the message, thank you for speaking to me this morning Lord, I will stop flirting with this sin.”
- **If you do so**, then you can spare yourself a whole lot of heartache.
- **The Lord loves you too much** to let you be lost to some sin, he will do whatever it takes to chasten you so that you get back on track with Him.

Hebrews 12:6

For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.”

4. To prevent us from becoming full of pride.

Deuteronomy 8:2, 16

And you shall remember that **the LORD your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you**, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not.

16 who fed you in the wilderness with manna, which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do you good in the end—

- **If you are His servant**, he will keep you humble.
- **If you have a problem with pride or self sufficiency**, he will put you into situations where you feel helpless, so that you will learn that you have no power of yourself.

5. To build our faith and trust in the Lord.

James 1:2

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,
3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing

Pastor Mark martin of Calvary Community Church in Phoenix was sharing with us at the pastors conference last week this verse, and that he has been going through some tremendous trials this past year.

- **This last year** he has had some 80 kidney stones.
- **He described for us** how he looked up the word “**Distress**” in the Greek language and it means “**A Rock in a narrow place**”.

One of the things that you will learn through this present trial or the one that is about to come, you will learn more how to trust the Lord.

6. To cause the greatest possible environment so that we can grow.

The great Christian writer Oswald chambers wrote:

“Measure your growth in Grace by your sensitivity to sin”

- **Does sin bother you more today** than it did a year ago.
- **Or are you more comfortable** or more tolerant of your sin than you were a yea ago?

We cannot, for some reason really see ourselves or our true spiritual condition until we are put under pressure.

- **It is under the pressure or heartache of a trial** that we really begin to see just how much we really believe what we have claimed.
- **I have seen people in their trials grow closer to Jesus**, and I have seen people fall away from the Lord and back into a lifestyle of sin.

I remember sitting down and contemplating what I was going to do now after my wife had left the marriage and taken the children

I could either run and jump into the arms of Jesus, seek to draw closer and closer to Him and find my sufficiency in Him, or I could run into the world and give myself to sin.

- **I am so thankful** that at that moment of decision, I chose to draw close to Jesus.
- **If you are hear this morning** and you have gone the other way, it is not too late to come back to the Lord, can you hear Him, he is inviting you to come to Him right now!
- **You cannot know the truth** of what you will do when your life shatters or your heart is broken, unless the Lord puts you in the pressure cooker of life.

James 1:4

But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

7. **To teach us about discipline and obedience to the Lord.**

Acts 9:15

But the Lord said to him, “Go, for **he is a chosen vessel** of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.

16 For **I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.**”

Philippians 4:11

11 Not that I speak in regard to need, **for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content:**

12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

8. **To equip us, so that we can also be a comfort to others who are suffering.**

2 Corinthians 1:1-4

1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,**

4 **who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.**

9. **To prove or show whether Jesus is really in us.**

If you could kick the fellow responsible for most of your problems, **do you know what would happen?** you wouldn't be able to sit down for a month!

- Very often We are, our own worst enemy.

Colossians 1:21-27

21 And **you, who once were alienated and enemies** in your mind by wicked works, yet **now He has reconciled**

Colossians 1:22

22...in the body of His flesh through death, **to present you holy, and blameless**, and above reproach in His sight—

23 **if indeed you continue in the faith**, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

24 **I now rejoice in my sufferings for you**, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

25 of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God,

26 the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints.

27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

10. As a testimony to the Angels.

1 Peter 1:12

To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—**things which angels desire to look into.**

Job 1

1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.

2 And seven sons and three daughters were born to him.

3 Also, his possessions were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.

4 And his sons would go and feast in their houses, each on his appointed day, and would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them.

5 So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, “It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.” Thus Job did regularly.

6 Now there was a day when **the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.**

7 And the LORD said to Satan, “From where do you come?” ¶ So Satan answered the LORD and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it.”

8 Then **the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job,** that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?”

9 So Satan answered the LORD and said, **“Does Job fear God for nothing?”**

10 **Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side?** You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

11 But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!”

12 And **the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.”** So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

13 Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house;

14 and a messenger came to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them,

15 when **the Sabeans raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!**”

16 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “**The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them;** and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

17 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “**The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants** with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

18 While he was still speaking, another also came and said, “**Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house,**

19 and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!”

20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he **fell to the ground and worshiped.**

21 And he said:

“**Naked I came from my mother’s womb,
And naked shall I return there.
The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away;
Blessed be the name of the LORD.**”

22 In all this Job did not sin **nor charge God with wrong.**

Ephesians 8

8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;

10 to the intent that **now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,**

I have often wondered why life’s problems didn’t come when I was 20 and knew everything!

There is another reason that we don't persevere under trials

Sometimes we just run out of Hope, we give up under the strain

In the Boston Marathon, there is a legendary obstacle called Heartbreak Hill.

Starting at mile thirteen of the Boston race course, there are a number of hills, climaxing at mile nineteen with Heartbreak Hill.

It's the longest, steepest hill in the race.

What makes this hill even worse is that world-class runners "hit the wall" around mile eighteen or nineteen.

"The Wall" is where their bodies have depleted the glycogen stored in the muscles. That glycogen has been replaced with lactic acid.

Their muscles are screaming for oxygen. When you hit the wall, you just feel like you're going to die.

Heartbreak Hill tests runners to the very core of their determination and their strength.

Even as there will be many heartbreak hills for you and I.

The difference is that Jesus has already run this race, and **I want to tell you that it broke His heart.**

So that today, you can know for certain that He brought the trials of your life, and he will bring you through the trials of your life.

And when it is all over, everyone of us will say, "Thank you Lord For the amazing Grace that caused you to bring such growth in my life, because of those trials.