HELEN SANDERS 11-21-2023 OUR FAITHFUL DELIVERER

There are always going to be trials and tests for a Christian. Psalm 34:19 says, *"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all."*

The Hebrew word for "afflictions" is "<u>ra.</u>" It means bad, evil, natural, or moral, adversity, calamity, distress, grief, harm, hurtful, misery, sorrow, trouble, vex, and wicked. You can see that this word covers most everything negative that comes into our lives that stretches our faith.

Even though these afflictions come, our hope is in the rest of the verse where it says, *"The LORD delivereth him out of them all."* The Hebrew word for delivereth is defend, deliver, recover, rescue, spoil, and strip. We can be sure that God is not caught unaware when we go through afflictions, but at the same time he makes a way out of them and strips or renders our enemy defeated.

In 1 Corinthians 10:13 it says, *"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."*

God is our deliverer, our salvation, and the only one that can be counted on to bring freedom from bondages, afflictions, and sorrow in our lives. He is our constant. He can be trusted, and he will never give us more than we can handle.

During the afflictions we can be sure that our faith is being developed. Without resistance muscles are not developed, and the same principle is true spiritually. We resist the trials and temptations and fight the fight of faith and we grow stronger spiritually. The victory may not happen immediately, but we can be sure that God will deliver us out of every affliction because he has promised to. Do not give up when the battle is hot because our deliverer is with you to bring you out of it!