

There is No Way Around it – Sometimes You Have to go Through it!

I Peter 4:12-17

* **Tribulation**: distress, **adversity** or persecution – an experience that **tries, test** and **proves**.

* **Temptation**: a putting to **proof**; by experience of solicitation or by being provoked. to **try** or **test** through **adversity** or enticement.

* **Trial**: temptation, **test** or **adversity** – to endure **proves** one's faith.

* **Test**: to investigate, examine, **test or prove**. to tempt or **try** by trial, **adversity** or examination.

1. What do tribulations, temptations, trials and tests all have in common?

- a. **They all have a common thread**: 1. adversity, 2. a trying time, 3. a time of testing, and 4. a time of proving.
- b. They all hold an opportunity for us to benefit and God to be glorified.
- c. They all are for one purpose: to prove our faith and to prove God's faithfulness.

2. Why do we have to experience them?

- a. Because God loves you – but the devil doesn't like you.
- b. Because we are in this world, but we are of it – "we are not home yet"!
- c. Because you don't know what's in you – until you go through something.

3. How do we get through them?

- a. Recognize who your real enemy truly is.
- b. Put your faith and confidence in God and His Word.
- c. Focus on God and the **purpose** of the tribulation, temptation, trial and test – not the tribulation, temptation, trial and the test itself.