

Title: The Death of Self-Reliance

Text: II Corinthians 1:8-11

Main Point: Impossible circumstances lead us to depend on God and prove His power to rescue us.

Sub-points:

1. The Purpose of Adversity
2. The Power of Prayer

Verse 1:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes." - Proverbs 3:5-7a

Quote 1:

"A monstrous evil which the Lord will not endure...an impertinent pride, insulting to the majesty of heaven." - Charles Spurgeon

Quote 2:

"God rescues us from ourselves by sending us failure, weakness, opposition, and challenges because we need to learn humility and weakness." - Ray Ortlund, Jr.

Quote 3:

"In delivering grace, we see God's glory. Everyone can see the miracle he has wrought for us and usually our lives are easier as a result . . . and we thank God for it . . . sustaining grace also shows God's glory. But with sustaining grace, people can see the miracle He has wrought in us. Our lives are easier because our perspective is different . . . this grace is not just a one-time thing . . . we need it every day. And it keeps us dependent on God. With sustaining Grace we get more of Jesus. His comfort, His nearness, His very presence. Both delivering grace and sustaining grace are essential in the Christian life." - Vaneetha Risner (from *The Scars that have Shaped Me*).