

Il Tim 3:10-11 - But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, 11

Persecutions, afflictions...

### WHAT HAPPENED?

- II Tim 3:11...which came unto me at **Antioch**, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.
  - Antioch in Pisidia: Act 13:50 But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts.

### WHAT HAPPENED?

- II Tim 3:11...which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.
  - Iconium: Act 14:5 —And when there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully, and to stone them,

# WHAT HAPPENED?

- II Tim 3:11...which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.
  - Lystra: Act 14:19 And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.
  - Most likely Timothy's hometown
    - Act 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus...

### PERSECUTIONS & AFFLICTIONS

- They are similar:
  - Proving/Endured
    - Mar 4:17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.
    - II Thes 1:4 ...for your patience and faith in all your **persecutions** and **tribulations** [affliction] that ye endure:
  - Perspective
    - Rom 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation [affliction], or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

### PERSECUTIONS & AFFLICTIONS

- They are different:
  - II Tim 3:11
  - Mar 4:17 ...when **affliction** or **persecution** ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.
  - Rom 8:35 ...shall **tribulation** [affliction], or distress, or **persecution**, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

### **AFFLICTIONS**

### Progress

- Rom 5:3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations [affliction] also: knowing that tribulation [affliction] worketh patience;
- II Cor 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;
- Example to others
  - Jas 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, **for an example of suffering affliction**, and of patience.
  - Il Cor 1:6 And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

### **AFFLICTIONS**

### Growth

- Psa 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.
- Exo 1:11-12 Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens... 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew...
- Necessary
  - Psa 119:75 I know, O LORD, that thy judgments are right, and that **thou in faithfulness** hast afflicted me.

# **AFFLICTIONS**

- Affliction is the feeling of pain, weight or travail; most often imposed to get you to change your position or to prove your faithfulness
  - Tribulation extended or broadly applied affliction
  - Anguish/trouble pain experienced for the purpose (i.e. labor/delivery)
  - Phl 1:16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

# Afflictions by God should be HEEDED and Afflictions by Man should be WITHSTOOD

# PERSECUTIONS

- Often associated with the Hand
  - Psa 31:15 ...deliver me from the **hand of mine enemies**, and from them that persecute me.
  - Luke 21:12 But before all these, they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.
- Exercise of Strength
  - Psa 142:6 ...deliver me from my persecutors; for they are stronger than I.
- Generates Fear
  - Psa 83:15 So persecute them with thy tempest, and make them afraid with thy storm.

### PERSECUTIONS

- Goes to the Soul
  - Psa 7:5 Let the enemy persecute my soul...
  - Psa 143:3 For the enemy hath persecuted my soul; he hath smitten my life down to the ground; he hath made me to dwell in darkness, as those that have been long dead.
- Associated with Death & Destruction
  - Lam 3:66 Persecute and **destroy** them in anger from under the heavens of the LORD.
  - Act 22:4 And I persecuted this way **unto the death**, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.
  - Gal 1:13 ... how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:

# PERSECUTIONS

- Persecution is the infliction of pain by another because of your belief, etc. It is 'compensation' or 'what is due' for your state (not necessarily to get you to change)
  - Jer 29:18 And I will persecute them with the sword, with the famine, and with the pestilence, and will deliver them to be removed...
  - Lam 3:66 Persecute and destroy them in anger...
  - John 5:16 ...did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him...

### **Afflictions**

God: To stop us from going the wrong way, to redirect us, or to be an example

Man: to stop the movement of God in an attempt to rationalize sin

Applies pressure to another to change behavior

Suffering hardness that is painful, proving, creates perspective and is endured

Imposes
will over
another in
an
execution
of
judgment

### **Persecutions**

God: Judgment on sinful man to remove obstacles from his mission

Man: Judgment on spiritual man for their actions and to stop God's movement

#### **PURPOSE**

TRIBULATION, DISTRESS, ANGUISH, TRAVAIL

**PUNISHMENT** PURSUE, HARASS, CHASE

### PERSECUTION or AFFLICTION

• Il Cor 11:23-28 - ...in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. 24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. 28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

	Affliction	Persecution
in labours more abundant	X	
in stripes above measure, Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one,	X	X
in prisons more frequent	X	X
in deaths oft		X
beaten with rods	X	X
stoned		X

	Affliction	Persecution
suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep	X	
In journeyings often	X	
in perils of waters	X	
in perils of robbers	X	
in perils by mine own countrymen	X	X
in perils by the heathen	X	

	Affliction	Persecution
in perils in the city	X	
in perils in the wilderness	X	
in perils in the sea	X	
in perils among false brethren	X	X
In weariness and painfulness	X	
in watchings	X	

	Affliction	Persecution
in hunger and thirst	X	
in fastings often	X	
in cold and nakedness	X	
that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.	X	
in hunger and thirst	X	

# Discernment of affliction and persecution in our lives will allow us to see how God is at WORK and will STRENGTHEN our WALK

