



How to Dream and Manage a Threat

Date: March 29, 2020

Intro: Four Things To Look at When You Are Threatened

1. Look at your threat **history**
2. Look at the **cause** of the threat
3. Look at the **emotional effects** of the threat
4. Look for the **benefits** you can gain from the threat experience

I. Paul's List of Lifetime Threats (2 Corinthians 11:23–33, NKJV)

23 Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in **labors** more abundant, in **stripes** above measure, in **prisons** more frequently, in **deaths** often. 24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was **beaten** with rods; once I was **stoned**; three times I was **shipwrecked**; a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 in journeys often, in **perils** of waters, in **perils** of **robbers**, in **perils** of my own countrymen, in **perils** of the Gentiles, in **perils** in the city, in **perils** in the wilderness, in **perils** in the sea, in **perils** among **false brethren**; 27 in **weariness** and toil, in sleeplessness often, in **hunger** and **thirst**, in **fastings** often, in **cold** and **nakedness**—28 besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.(NKJV)

1. Labors
2. Stripes
3. Prisons
4. Deaths
5. Beaten
6. Stoned
7. Shipwrecked
8. Perils (mentioned 8x)
9. False Brethren
10. Weariness
11. Hunger
12. Thirst
13. Fasting
14. Cold
15. Nakedness



II. How Peter Advised Us to Manage Threats (I Peter 1:3-9)

1. Believe You Have a Living Hope

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to **a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

2. Believe You Are Kept by The Power of God (Not by your own creative powers)

- 5 who are **kept by the power of God** through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

3. Believe The Issue Is For a Little While

- 6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now **for a little while**, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the **genuineness of your faith**, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet **believing**, you **rejoice** with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.

A. In this season genuinely have **faith**.

B. In this season genuinely **rejoice**.

C. In this season **remember the prophets** warned us.

- 10 Of this salvation the **prophets** have inquired and searched carefully, who **prophesied of the grace that would come to you**, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when **He testified beforehand the sufferings** of Christ and the glories that would follow. 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.

Next Time: How Christ Managed Threats

Read Ahead: Luke 21:10-11

- 10 Then He said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. 11 And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and **pestilences**; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.