

embracing the storm

1. you must have an awe of God

1. **God is loving** – God CARES about you

- Matthew 9:36 / Matthew 14:14 / Matthew 18:27 / Mark 1:41 / Luke 19:41 / John 11:35 1 John 4:9 / Romans 8:39
- **ROM 5**
- **1 Peter 5:7**

God's love for you is ... perfect, undeserved, deep, full, and eternal ...

2. **God is all wise** – God knows and does what is best

- Rom. 16:27 / Job 9:4 / Isaiah 40:28 / Isaiah 55:8-9 / Rom. 11:33

God's Wisdom is based on omniscience and exercised in love ...

3. **God is Sovereign** – God is in control

- Proverbs 16:9 / Proverbs 19:21 / Psalm 115:3 / Isaiah 14:27 / Isaiah 43:13 / Isaiah 46:10 / Daniel 4:35 / Isaiah 45:7

God's Sovereignty assures me that His loving wisdom will be fulfilled ...

HOWEVER ... BE WARNED ...

4. **God is Incomprehensible** – You are not going to understand God's ways

- Isaiah 55:8 / Romans 11:33 / Isaiah 29:16

God's divinity reminds me that I will not understand Him or His ways fully

GOD is RIGHT ... stop doubting Him

2. You must have a heart that longs for Christlikeness (at any cost)

- God desires to conform us to Christlikeness Romans 8:28-29
- suffering matures us - James 1:2-5
- suffering develops Christ-like Character - Romans 5:3-4
- suffering humbles me and drives me to find sufficiency in Christ ALONE !! - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

What is our Biblical Responsibility?

1. Pray Phil 4:6-7
2. Look for and See God's hand - Genesis 45:8 / Genesis 50:20
3. Worship (acknowledging His worthiness)- Job 1:20-21
4. Be thankful - 1 Thessalonians 5:18
5. Be humbled (true Christlikeness) - 2 Corinthians 12:7
6. Be forgiving (Joseph) - Ephesians 4:32
 - You are never more like Christ than when you forgive
 - You will never have occasion to forgive more of another that Christ has forgiven you !!!

FACTS ABOUT TRIALS:

1. we MUST not compare trials – God is the orchestrator and He is ALL wise
2. we cannot decide whether or not we will have trials
3. we cannot decide what our trials are
4. we cannot decide when we will have trials
5. we cannot decide how long trials will last
6. we cannot decide how many trials we will face at once
7. we cannot be certain we will understand the reason for our trials
8. **WE CAN decide how we will respond to trials**

Infinite wisdom has arranged the whole with infinite love, and infinite power enables me to rest upon that love.

I am in a dear Father's hands; all is secure.

When I look to Him I see nothing but faithfulness and immutability and truth, and I have the sweetest peace. I cannot have more peace!

CHARLES SIMEON

KEY TRUTH: What I really believe will change how I act !!!