



Jesus wants me to know that, when I face trouble, ...

1. "Trouble is a normal part of life... so expect it."

You will suffer hardship... **Revelation 2:10b (CEB)**

I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world. **John 16:33 (NIV)**

2. "Trouble has several causes... so consider the source."

- Source #1: Me...

Sinful people have all kinds of trouble... **Psalm 32:10 (NIRV)**

- Source #2: The Lord...

I made the light and the darkness. I bring peace, and I cause troubles. I, the Lord, do all these things. **Isaiah 45:7 (ICB)**

- Source #3: Others...

Anyone who belongs to Christ Jesus and wants to live right will have trouble from others. **2 Timothy 3:12 (CEV)**

- Source #4: Satan...

In every battle you will need faith as your shield to stop the fiery arrows aimed at you by Satan. **Ephesians 6:16 (TLB)**

3. "Trouble is temporary... so be patient."

The devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. **Revelation 2:10b (NIV)**

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT)

4. "Trouble has a purpose... so embrace it."

I know that you are poor, but really you are rich! **Revelation 2:9 (ERV)**

Don't be afraid of what will happen to you. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison. He will do this to test you. **Revelation 2:10a (ERV)**

Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job. Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner. ¹⁴⁻¹⁶ If you're abused because of Christ, count yourself fortunate. It's the Spirit of God and his glory in you that brought you to the notice of others. If they're on you because you broke the law or disturbed the peace, that's a different matter. But if it's because you're a Christian, don't give it a second thought. Be proud of the distinguished status reflected in that name! **1 Peter 4:12-17 (MSG)**

5. "God rewards faithfulness... so look forward to it."

Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death. **Revelation 2:10b-11 (NASB)**

Everyone who is a child of God has the power to win against the world. It is our faith that wins the victory against the world. ⁵ So the one who conquers the world is the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. **1 John 5:4-5 (ICB)**