

Pastor Ron Case
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“Thriving in the Fire”

“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.” (1 Peter 4:12-13)

Fiery Processing

Isaiah 33:10-14 – (10) “‘Now I will arise,’ says the LORD, ‘now I will lift myself up; now I will be exalted. (11) You conceive chaff; you give birth to stubble; your breath is a fire that will consume you. (12) And the peoples will be as if burned to lime, like thorns cut down, that are burned in the fire.’ (13) Hear, you who are far off, what I have done; and you who are near, acknowledge my might. (14) The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless: ‘Who among us can dwell with the consuming fire? Who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings?’”

Those Who Thrive in the Fire

Isaiah 33:15 –

**“He who walks righteously – How do I conduct myself?
and speaks uprightly, – Does my speech point upward to God?
who despises the gain of oppressions, – Do I have to get my way no
matter who it costs?
who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, – Do I exploit others?
who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed – Do I listen to
corrupting communication?
and shuts his eyes from looking on evil,” – What am I viewing?**

God wants me to thrive & not just survive His Fiery Process

A Bit of Heaven on Earth

Isaiah 33:16-24 – (16) “he will dwell on the heights; his place of defense will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him; his water will be sure. (17) Your

eyes will behold the king in his beauty; they will see a land that stretches afar. (18) Your heart will muse on the terror: 'Where is he who counted, where is he who weighed the tribute? Where is he who counted the towers?' (19) You will see no more the insolent people, the people of an obscure speech that you cannot comprehend, stammering in a tongue that you cannot understand. (20) Behold Zion, the city of our appointed feasts! Your eyes will see Jerusalem, an untroubled habitation, an immovable tent, whose stakes will never be plucked up, nor will any of its cords be broken. (21) But there the LORD in majesty will be for us a place of broad rivers and streams, where no galley with oars can go, nor majestic ship can pass. (22) For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. (23) Your cords hang loose; they cannot hold the mast firm in its place or keep the sail spread out. Then prey and spoil in abundance will be divided; even the lame will take the prey. (24) And no inhabitant will say, 'I am sick'; the people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity."

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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