



# A TIME FOR REFINING

*ZECHARIAH 13:9 (NLT) –I WILL REFINE THEM LIKE SILVER  
AND PURIFY THEM LIKE GOLD. THEY WILL CALL ON MY NAME,  
AND I WILL ANSWER THEM. I WILL SAY, ‘THESE ARE MY  
PEOPLE,’ AND THEY WILL SAY, ‘THE LORD IS OUR GOD.’ ”*

# WHY WE NEED REFINING...

- **Acts 14:22 (TPT) – 22** At each place they (Paul and Barnabus) went, they strengthened the lives of the believers and encouraged them to go deeper in their faith. And they taught them, “It is necessary for us to enter into the realm of God’s kingdom, because that’s the only way we will endure our many trials and persecutions.”
- **John 16:33 (TPT) – 33** And everything I’ve taught you is so that the peace which is in me will be in you and will give you great confidence as you rest in me. For in this unbelieving world you will experience trouble and sorrows, but you must be courageous, for I have conquered the world!”

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- **1 Corinthians 11:18-19 (NLT)** – 18 First, I hear that there are divisions among you when you meet as a church, and to some extent I believe it. 19 But, of course, there must be divisions among you so that you who have God's approval will be recognized!
- **1 Timothy 4:1 (NLT)** – Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.
- **2 Timothy 4:3 (NLT)** – For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear.

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- **2 Peter 3:3 (NLT)** – Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires.
- **2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NLT)** – **1** You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be very difficult times. **2** For people will love only themselves and their money. They will be boastful and proud, scoffing at God, disobedient to their parents, and ungrateful. They will consider nothing sacred. **3** They will be unloving and unforgiving; they will slander others and have no self-control. They will be cruel and hate what is good. **4** They will betray their friends, be reckless, be puffed up with pride, and love pleasure rather than God. **5** They will act religious, but they will reject the power that could make them godly. Stay away from people like that!

1 John 3:8 (NLT)

...But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

**Your assignment in the Army of God is your individual expression and extension of Christ's destruction of the works of the devil. You are a destroyer of the works of the devil. God will give you a way to do it that is unique to you.**

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*"Evil convulses at the approach of a new vessel of God. Hell instantly puts chosen ones on a hit list. The child of God must be blasted by divine certainty into a trajectory that will escape the pull of devils, the seduction of fame, withering criticism, and the dark night of the soul that comes to all who are called of God."*

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

We must submit to a time of refining for the days ahead because God's power will only operate in vessels that are pure. We must remove all legal authority of the enemy to work in our lives.



# REMOVING THE DEVIL'S LEGAL AUTHORITY

- **John 14:30 (TPT)** –I won't speak with you much longer, for the ruler of this dark world is coming. But he has no power over me, for he has nothing to use against me.
- **1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)** –Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.
- **2 Thessalonians 2:10 (NLT)** – He will use every kind of evil deception to fool those on their way to destruction, because they refuse to love and accept the truth that would save them.

# REMOVING THE DEVIL'S LEGAL AUTHORITY

- **Ephesians 6:10-18 (NLT)** – **10** A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11** Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. **12** For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. **14** Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. **15** For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. **16** In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. **17** Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.



# REFINING GIVES STRENGTH TO ENDURE

- *“Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils. But if God be for you, who can be against you? Are all of them together stronger than God? O be not weary of well doing! Go on, in the name of God and in the power of his might...” John Wesley*
- 2 Timothy 2:20-21 (NLT) – 20 In a wealthy home some utensils are made of gold and silver, and some are made of wood and clay. The expensive utensils are used for special occasions, and the cheap ones are for everyday use. 21 If you keep yourself pure, you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.

# A TIME TO REFINING

- **Joel 2:13 (NLT)** – Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead." Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish.
- **Revelation 3:18 (NLT) – 18** So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.