

- d. Some of the purposes in "waiting"
  - (1) better preparation of the servant!
  - (2) assurance of the proper or correct path
  - (3) arrangements of details beyond our scope
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- e. The great challenge is to allow patience to have her perfect work (James 1)

#### 4. Temporal Punishments

- a. By definition This discipline defines a situation in which God metes out an immediate (in most cases) punishment for a temporal disobedience. We must be careful in discernment in this area for not everything that happens is a Divine rebuke: this is, in fact, uncommon. We need to live in a circumspect way under the will of God and stay sensitive to His Word and our personal commitment....and we must be very careful about being judges of others.
- b. The character of this discipline:
  - (1) A sudden destruction (Acts 5: Ananias and Sapphira) or an immediate affliction ( 1 Kings 13: Jeroboam at the altar). A similar case is that of Hananiah in Jeremiah 28 and that of Herod (Acts 12:21-23)
  - (2) An administrative act of justice with more long term events serving as a general warning. The case of Miriam in Numbers 12 may be seen as such and the judgment of the offending believer in 1 Corinthians 5 is in a similar category. The general statement of 1 Corinthians 11:30 is probably also applicable.
- c. Further Biblical illustrations:
  - (1) Sodom and Gomorrah
  - (2) The judgments on the Revelation churches  
-Revelation 1-3
  - (3) The self admonition of Paul---1 Corinthians 9:27
- d. The purposes in this sort of discipline may be summarized so:
  - (1) To teach the seriousness of commitment to the Lord
  - (2) To correct quickly situations that threaten the holiness of God