

A Way Out?

“God is faithful...when you are tempted,
he will also provide a way out so that
you can stand up under it.”

1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)

I was asked by the doctor, when he ordered up an MRI for me, if I was claustrophobic. I scoffed at the suggestion and assured him that I would be fine. I recalled a previous time when I had an MRI and everything went well. It was like a walk in the park. This would be no different.

I went happily on my way to the appointment for the MRI blissfully unaware of what was in store for me. The technician was pleasant and explained everything to me. He also asked about claustrophobia. I assured him I was fine. He had me lie down on the table and put a device in my hand and told me to push the button if I wanted out of the machine.

He was able to insert my body as far as my waist when all of a sudden I panicked and pushed the button. I was overwhelmed with fear and found the confinement intolerable. I could not go on with the

scan and made profuse apologies to the technician.

I left the hospital humiliated at my inability to proceed with the needed diagnostic work. What would the prescribing doctor think after I had assured him that I could have the procedure done without discomfort? I was in considerable distress at my inability to do what I had previously done readily. There was no way for me to “stand up under” my dilemma medically speaking.

Our verse today speaks about tough times of temptation without naming specifics. Any issue that you may have therefore can fit into this verse we have for today. Whatever you are working with in your personal situation allow the verse to speak to it.

You will notice that in our verse the writer does not say that God will remove the problem, rather that He will provide you with

what is needed to endure the problem. It certainly is great when the problem is taken away and often it is – thank God. But some of us have to “hang in there” with the issue on the long term.

In such a situation we are given the grace to endure. The miraculous help is God-sent to lift us up when the problem seems to crush us down.

Bring this problem of yours to God and also this verse and ask for the promised “way out” so that you can endure it. He is faithful and will certainly make the escape so you endure with victory. Come to Him today and keep on praying until the blessed and needed help arrives to keep on in life. Never, never quit. The gracious Lord will provide for His own.

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