

April, 2013

Dear Families of Gilead Bible Church,

Recently, we have been going through some trials. We might agree with



Thomas Paine. On December 23, 1776, in an article "The Crisis," he wrote:<sup>1</sup>

*"These are the times that try men's souls..."*

What concerned Thomas Paine was this:

*'Britain, with an army to enforce her tyranny, has declared that she has a right (not only to TAX) but "to BIND us in ALL CASES WHATSOEVER" and if being bound in that manner, is not slavery, then is there not such a thing as slavery upon earth.'*

How should we, in GBC, respond to our trials of life? James teaches us in *James*

1:1-12 the following:

*This is a time of joy*

*This is a time of God's testing*

*Trials will help us develop perseverance*

*Trials will make us mature and complete*

*God will provide his wisdom for us to get through the trials*

*The time of our trials is a high position from God's perspective*

*When we persevere, we will receive the crown of life*

May we give consideration to the Bible's teaching as we go through this difficult time of

Trials in GBC!

God Bless,

Pastor and Helen Moy

<sup>1</sup>Excerpted from <http://www.ushistory.org/paine/crisis/c-01.htm>

2013年4月

親愛的基列教會主內一家,

最近我們經歷一些考驗,

或者我們會認同革命家湯姆斯. 佩恩在1776年 12月23日所寫的一篇文章  
“美國危機”.<sup>1</sup> 裏面提到: 這正是考驗人 靈魂的時候…”

湯姆斯. 佩恩所關心的事是:” 英國的軍隊在執行暴政時宣布她擁有的權利 (不單是稅收方面), 而是“在任何情況下對我們進行全面約束”, 如果那樣約束我們還不叫奴役的話, 那世上就不存在奴役這回事了.”

那麼我們在基列教會裏如何去回應我們生命中的試驗? 雅各在雅各書1章1-12節 教導我們:

有喜樂的時候

有神試驗的時候

試煉將有助於我們啓發毅力

試煉將讓我們更成熟和完整

神會供給祂的智慧, 讓我們能夠通過試煉

從神的角度來看, 我們遭遇試驗的時間祂視為最重要

若我們能夠持久, 我們便會得到生命的冠冕

讓我們藉著聖經的教導幫助我們基列教會去渡過這段困難的試煉時期!

願神祝福

梅牧師, 師母

<sup>1</sup> 摘自 <http://www.ushistory.org/paine/crisis/c-01.htm>

