

## **“Why Did God Make It So Hard?!”**

**The 'gift of God' is eternal life, and that through Jesus Christ. Jesus made it possible for us to become the 'sons of God', the 'new man in Christ'. That means being 'changed', transformed into the exact image of Christ. Not Christ after the flesh, but in the image of the 'resurrected Christ'.**

**Remember, Jesus asked of his Father, “Isn't there some other way? Nevertheless, thy will be done...” Jesus is the 'way, the truth and the life'. We must follow 'in his steps'. He didn't say it would be easy, but he said that he would be 'with us'!**

**His pathway is the only way for us to be transformed. Here are four things to look at for encouragement as we follow in his steps.**

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**Distress:**  
*stress, anxiety, suffering*

**vs.**

**Dependence:**  
*looking to, clinging to, God, for everything!*

**Despair:**  
*give up, quit, lose all hope, don't know which way to go*

**vs.**

**Discipline:**  
*self control, unmoved, steadfast, sure, functional in chaos*

**Defeat:**  
*failure, overcome, betrayed, abandoned, doomed*

**vs.**

**Determination:**  
*knowing, trusting, finding a way where there is no way*

**Death:**  
*the end!, point of no return, no hope of recovery, it's over!*

**vs.**

**Depth:**  
*spiritual depth, 'in' Christ!, no longer walking in the flesh*

**In the days ahead each of us will be questioning what is happening and why is God letting it happen. Hopefully this will help.**