

Fire Refinement

1-11-13

In Yellowstone National Park there's an interesting tree called a Lodgepole Pine. Its cones can hang on for years before falling off. Even then they remain tightly closed. They open only when they are contacted with intense heat. Whenever forest fires are raging and all the trees are being destroyed, the heat opens these particular pine cones. As a result, they are the first to assist nature in repopulating the forest. There's potential in each of us that's only released when we're under pressure or in a fiery trial. It's one thing to hear how God works based on somebody else's experience, it's another to see it first-hand. It's in the fire that you discover new aspects of God's care & character. Question: "What turns worthless carbon into diamonds?" "Give up?" Heat! Pressure! In the fire of life's trials you discover that people will abandon you, and trust me they will, but God remains faithful. Your fiery trial becomes an opportunity for Him to demonstrate His love & care for you. And this I discovered first-hand, through my fiery prison trial.

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