





# Through the Fire

*Refined, Tested and Proven*

**Zechariah 13:7-9**

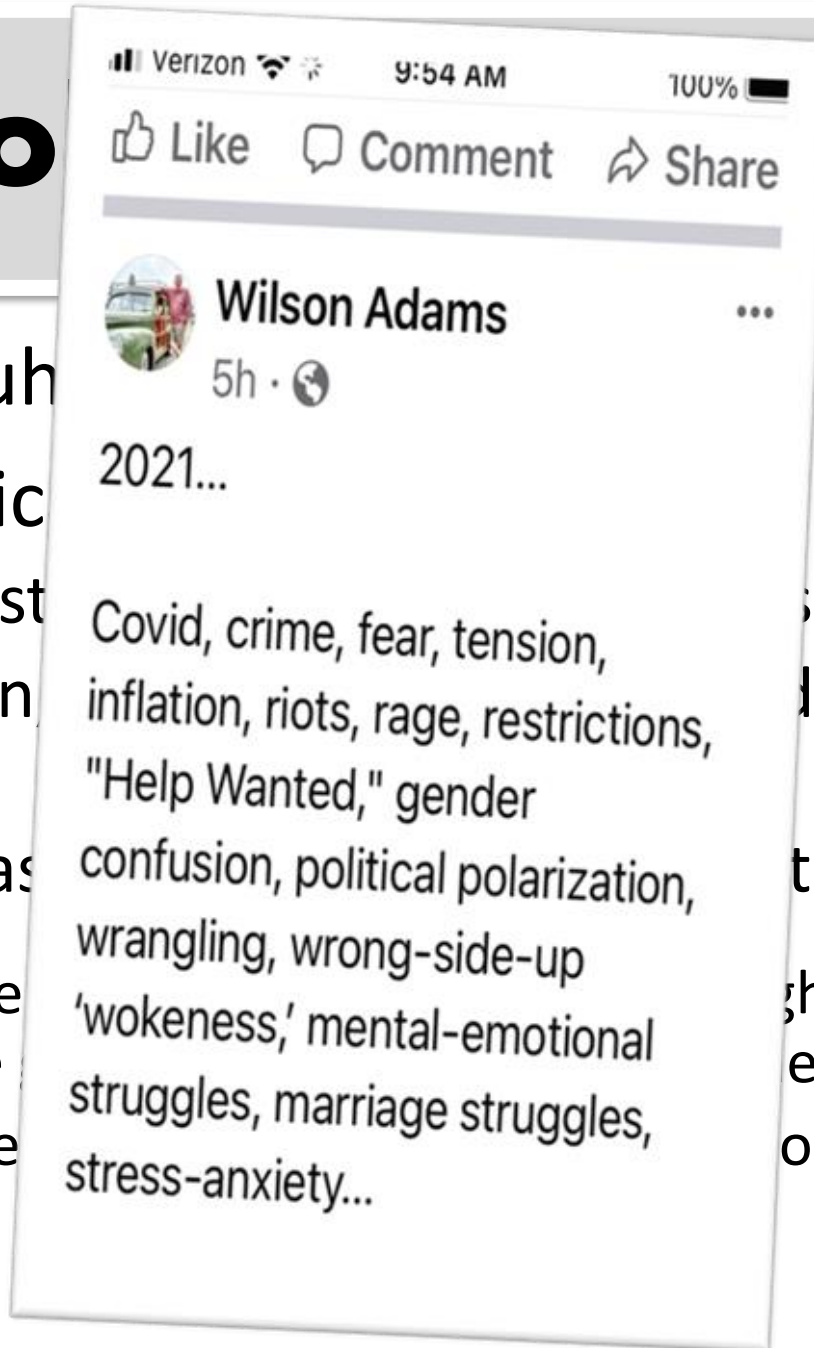
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# tion

**dumpster fire** [ duh  
*noun* – North Americ

1. a fire in a dumpst
2. slang. a situation  
of control.
3. a chaotic or disas

“2020 is the year the te  
speech to describe the  
“2021 has been anothe



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emic lives.” (AP)

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# Sobering Transition

**The fire is real... and so is the suffering:**

uncertainty

sickness

death

natural disaster

personal crisis...

**We are done with 2021, but we aren't done with fire...**



# But the Thing about Fire Is...

## God uses fire to refine us

*“For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.”*

**(Psalm 66:10)**

*“The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and the LORD tests hearts.”* **(Proverbs 17:3)**

*“Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction”* **(Isaiah 48:10)**

*“But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.”* **(Job 23:10)**



# They Are My People

***“I will put this third into the fire...”*** (Zech. 13:9)

*“refine”* them - melt, pure, purge away

*“test”* them - to examine, try, prove

***“They will call upon my name...”***

His people turn to Him

His people don't turn elsewhere

His people won't turn away

***“I will answer them.”***



# We Are

*“In this you rejoice, though necessary, you have been given the tested genuineness of your faith, like gold that perishes though it is refined, so that your faith may result in praise and glory to Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 1:6-7)*



“You know, we’re just not reaching that guy.”

Rejoicing all the while (cf. James 1:2-3)

Focused on the eternal result



# The Fire May Get Worse

*“Behold, a day is coming for the LORD, when the spoil taken from you will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city shall be taken and the houses plundered and the women raped. Half of the city shall go out into exile...” (Zech. 14:1-2)*

**But for those who call upon His name**

*“Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations as when he fights on a day of battle.” (Zech. 14:3)*





# God Will Bring Us through the Fire

*“And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness” (Zech. 8:8)*

**God has brought us through the fire that was 2021**

**He will bring His people through whatever “fire” comes next**

**Suffering now... glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ**

**Will you call upon His name?**



