"This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God"

(John 11:4)

 God is glorified by the demonstration of His power. God is also glorified by the demonstration of our faith. The critical time for Mary and Martha to exercise faith in the love and power of our Lord was while the body of Lazarus was still in the grave. That was when faith was most difficult and when it was most necessary.

• The time of trouble is the time for the strengthening of our faith. HOW?

The time of calling upon God
(prayers) and drawing close to Him
(repentance).

2. Time for endurance and patience by which we receive our rewards.

3. Time of looking towards what is not seen and trusting that all things work for good to those who love God.

4. Time of acquiring first-hand experience with the promises of God and hence being able to give it to others.

5. Time for recognizing our limitations and giving glory only to God.

6. Time of feeling others' sufferings and acquiring a compassionate heart towards those who are in troubles.

7. Time for us to understand and learn that suffering is not inconsistent with His love.