

*"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. **For it is God** which worketh in you BOTH to WILL and to DO of HIS good pleasure." **Philippians 2:12-13** KJV*



To say, "God helps us," implies He holds the lug nuts while we change the tire. It is not so. If anything, we're the tire. People often say, "God is my co-pilot," implying He plays second fiddle, and many treat Him as such by designating God roles in their life of secondary control, proudly deluding themselves they know best. *"Pride goeth before destruction!"* God is either your Master or He's nothing at all to you. He doesn't play "second fiddle" to anything or anyone! God's Word says, *"I will not give my glory unto another."* To assume or imply God is OUR helper steals His rightful place. *"He is before all things, and by Him all things consist...that in ALL THINGS He might have the preeminence."* God HELPS men by deliverance from death and sin which they cannot do, but you are to *"work out your own salvation with fear and trembling"* like you would "work out" a math problem. We call it a PROBLEM, because it is a puzzle for US to solve using the laws of math; the only way it can be solved. The laws of math are absolute. To fully understand our salvation we must apply our hearts to know Wisdom from God's Word and His grace and love towards us. The Blessed Holy Spirit of Christ is our tutor in our thoughts as we WORK OUT the problems of life detrimental to our faith or those things which cause unbelief. Each day is an open book exam. Unbelief happens when the sea of circumstance causes us to lose focus on the Author AND Finisher of our faith. Without the light there is only darkness. Without Christ there is only unbelief! It is for us to understand how God is working in and through us to do of His good will and pleasure. The more we know the Word of God, the more understanding we will acquire. The solution to each of life's problems is trusting God's Word above all else including our own reason and ability. We obey with *"fear and trembling,"* not because God will punish us for disobedience, which He will by letting us reap what we sow, because we follow the alternative of our own reason. Each person in hell fell in while singing, "I did it my way." Be very afraid of doing things YOUR WAY. *"There is a way which SEEMETH RIGHT unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH!"* Satan loves self-help seminars and clinics. He wants people to be self-empowered instead of God empowered. He knows that the hearts of men are *"desperately wicked"* and that no man can know the depths of evil that lurk in his own soul. David cried out, *"Search me, O God, and know my heart...and see if there be any wicked way in me!"* God searches our heart through diligent study and application of His Word to our lives. Obedience to God's Word is its application.

My God will do a work in me,
For all the world to plainly see.
The Lord of Life transform a man,
According to His perfect Plan. -CGP

"Let go and let God," will take on a whole new meaning as we love, trust, and obey God's Word. *"Great Peace have they which love Thy Law and NOTHING shall offend them!"*

"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Romans 8:26-28 KJV