

“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:” Colossians 1:10-12No2 KJV



The recruit is made “meet” for battle through trial; to obey without question his commander. Eternity’s Sovereign laid aside omnipotence and clothed Himself in human flesh; like you going from being actively robust to an ant! Add the agony of Golgotha, and then filter YOUR life through this fact; “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. For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, [who] being found in fashion as a man...humbled Himself, and became obedient unto...even the death of the cross.” What is the will of God for His own? *“To be conformed to the image of his Son.”* Trials transform you into the image of Christ. Salvation is only the beginning! The only thing that will strengthen you for trials is the Joy of the Lord: by faith believing *“every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”* It is the same Joy of our Lord which gave Him the endurance He needed. *“Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith; who FOR THE JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM endured the cross, despising the shame.”* We want all the glory but none of the pain. Sorrow magnifies Joy. *“Whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified. He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”*

The trials of our present strife
Are prelude to eternal Life,
And though they cut us to the bone,
They can’t compare to heav’nly home! ~CGP

Without the valley there is no mountain. Without the stones, the stream would have no song. Jesus, *“though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered and...became the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him.”* Do you think God will not make every pang and twinge worth it? The brief glimpse of Glory the Apostle Paul was afforded at the onset of his ministry inspired these words; *“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”* We cannot even imagine the pleasure of God’s personal companionship for endless time! Your trials are but a flash in the pan of eternity! Death is the friend of the tortured. The end of time is here! *“We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump: For this...mortal must put on immortality. When...this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying, ‘Death is swallowed up in victory!’”* Faith is the Victory!

“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM; for we shall see Him as He is.” 1 John 3:2 KJV