

“Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations.” 1 Peter 1:6 KJV



Summer seems long and hot and winter’s blast seems never ending, but they pass away every year. Time slows to a crawl when trouble prevails while happy times flit away like butterflies! It’s all relative to attitude. When we’re sad, time drags its feet, but if at peace, time has no meaning. Time’s passage depends on attitude which depends on what occupies thought. If we think troubling thoughts, we do so to our own

hurt. I am often accused of being unsympathetic or unfeeling, because I will not allow despair to take up residence in my life. I am a double-stroke paraplegic existing in a wheelchair without the ability to care for myself, but it doesn’t matter! It is from God’s hand to my portion and I know He is doing it for my good and His glory! I can despair about MY life or I can help others. We all have twenty four hours each day. How we steward thought determines whether our days are full of trouble or joy. *“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in Thy sight, O LORD, my Strength, and my Redeemer.”* While we may be in the midst of trial and sorrow, we don’t have to let it consume our life! It is not the journey that is pleasant, but the arrival. The trials of the journey are endured for the anticipated pleasure of Home! *“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, and is set down at the right hand of the Throne of God. Looking for that Blessed Hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.”* We all have the floods of life with which to deal. We can either drown in them or we can reach heavenward and grasp the ring of life given to us by the promises in God’s Word! We can allow the whispers of doubt and despair of Satan’s fiery darts to burn in our hearts or we can allow the flood waters of God’s Word to quench every one! We can dwell in the trouble of temporal life or we can dwell in the Sure Hope of the omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent Jehovah! Where you are mentally, determines where you are spiritually. What you ponder determines the paths you wander. Birds fly over my head, but they don’t build nests in my hair! We all have trouble all of the time. Trouble in mortal life is as inescapable as water around a boat. Water AROUND the boat is not the problem. It’s the water IN the boat that’s trouble! It’s time we learned how to bail!

Seasons of sorrow come to all,
Troubles and trials us all befall,
But if we start to slip and fall,
God’s Word will keep us through it all! ~CGP

Lifting weights is not easy or pleasant, but those who wish to be strong must endure their hardship to build muscle. Do not think of sorrow or trouble as harm, although it may well have been intended so, think of it as that which builds your faith and trust in God. Think of it as the journey which brings you Home! The stronger the wind, the faster the voyage!

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.” 1 Peter 1:3-5 KJV