

DAY 31

There He tested them. (Exodus 15:25)

~~ Testing the purity of our faith ~~

I once visited the testing room of a large steel mill. I was surrounded by instruments and equipment that tested pieces of steel to their limits and measured their breaking point. Some pieces had been twisted while some had been stretched to their breaking point. Others had been compressed to their crushing point and measured. Because of the testing, the steel maker knew exactly how much stress and strain each piece of steel could endure if it was used to build a ship, building, or bridge.

It is often much the same with God's children. He does not want us to be like fragile vases of glass or porcelain. He wants us to be like these toughened pieces of steel, to be able to endure twisting and crushing pressure to the utmost without collapse. God doesn't want us to be like greenhouse plants. He takes us into His testing room of suffering. From our own experiences, we don't need to prove that suffering is indeed God's testing room of faith.

It is quite easy for us to talk and to theorize about faith, but God often puts us into His crucible of affliction to test the purity of our gold and to separate the dross from the metal. How happy we are if the hurricanes that blow across life's raging sea have the effect of making Jesus more precious to us! It is better to weather the storm with Christ than to sail smooth waters without Him. *-J. R. Madcuff*

What if God could not manage to mature your life without suffering?
(LC - Aug. 28)

~~~ Pray ~~~

Abba Father,

We know the turbulence in our life allowed us to know your grace and helped us to build a stronger faith in You. Each and every time we go through suffering, we became more matured and learned how precious your presence with us. Praise the Lord! (DC)