

DAY 34

God is our refuge and strength, and ever-present help in trouble.
(Psalm 46:1)

~~ *Building intimacy through trials* ~~

“Why didn’t God help me sooner?” This is a question that is often asked, but it is not His will to act on your schedule. He desires to change you through the trouble and cause you to learn a lesson from it. He has promised, “I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him” (Ps. 91:15). He will be with you in trouble all day and through the night. Afterward, he will take you out of it, but not until you have stopped being restless and worried over it and have become calm and quiet. Then He will say, “It is enough.”

God uses trouble to teach His children precious lessons. Difficulties are intended to educate us, and when their good work is done, a glorious reward will become ours through them. There is a sweet joy and a real value in difficulties, for He regards them not as difficulties but as opportunities. One old man said, “When God tests you, it is a good time to test Him by putting His promises to the test and then claiming from Him exactly what your trials have made necessary.”

There are two ways of getting out of a trial. One is simply to try to get rid of it and be thankful as it is over. The other is to recognize the trial as a challenge from God to claim a larger blessing and to accept it with delight as an opportunity of receiving a greater measure of God’s divine grace. In this way, we can experience, “In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us” (Rom. 8:37). – A. B. Simpson (LC - Sept. 7)

~~~ *Pray* ~~~

Abba Father,

I praise you for your presence. Please help me to take every trial as an opportunity of receiving a greater blessing from You. It is Your way for us to build intimacy in trusting You in Christ. Amen. (DC)