



**Isn't life  
supposed to be  
enjoyable?**

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## Isn't life supposed to be enjoyable?

In the beginning when life was exceedingly enjoyable, God told Adam, that if he disobeyed Him he would die. *“From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”*  
Gen 2:17

The immediate result of Adam's disobedience was spiritual death, and being put out of the living presence of God; even though man deserved to really die immediately for going against God, and ever since then, all who are born have Adam's independence and are going to die sooner or later.

As a result of Adam's declaration of independence, in doing what he wanted, he could not remain in intimate relations with the holy God, because there can be no relationship of light with the darkness of man's rebellion. *‘Therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden.’*  
Gen 3:23

But because God is compassionate and kind, He didn't destroy man utterly as we justly deserved, instead, in His mercy, He lets us work out our decision to ignore Him, and forced us to take responsibility for our unholy behaviour. In this way God gave us over to a depraved mind.

We may say: Why me? The evidence in our lives replies: Why not you? Isn't life supposed to be enjoyable? Not since Adam gave his dominion on earth to the devil. As Satan worked his deception in the Garden of Eden, he continues to this day to seduce people into doing his will and turning them away from the living God.

Independence from God means losing the blessing that comes from living with God, and it opens us up to the forces of darkness. *‘For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.’*  
Eph 6:12

To understand the problems of the world, we must see the cause is in us; we don't like having God controlling our lives. *“They did not see fit to acknowledge God.”*  
Rom 1:28

To acknowledge God means God has to be first in all things.

Not giving God His due place is the original cause for all suffering in the world. Dishonouring God is the state of the human mind and heart, even though God gave man adequate knowledge of Himself.

*'For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.'*  
Rom 11:36

*'For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.'*  
Col 1:17-18

Therefore we see all suffering on earth is caused by Adam's rebellion against God's rule and sovereign authority, and then everyone who has been born on earth since.

The corruption caused by independence from God is working out in the lives of mankind ever since. Adam's sin brings suffering through the just judgment of God into every aspect of life on earth, including all our personal relationships.

At the time God judged Adam, the whole natural world was also cursed as a result of Adam's sin; therefore the perfection of creation was also corrupted just as Adam was corrupted. *'For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.'*  
Rom 8:20-21

Where there was once peace and harmony in creation, we now have catastrophes.

### **Now suffering exist to this day**

Suffering is the consequence of our independence from God. The only legitimate answer to the existence of suffering is that evil enters our lives when we turn from obedient dependence on God; which means we are thinking we can live without God.

In this way we dishonour God, we ignore God; and we become foolish in our speculations about life and happiness.

Professing to be wise, we elevate ourselves to a position where we think we don't need God who is '*the only wise God,*' (Rom 16:27) "*With Him are wisdom and might; To Him belong counsel and understanding.*" Job 12:13

God has every right to do as He thinks best. God is the supreme ruler over all things in heaven and one earth. '*Whatever the LORD pleases, He does, In heaven and in earth,*' (Psalm 135:6) '*having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.*' (Eph1:11) "*He is before all things, and in him all things hold together*" Col 1:17

Because God loves us, He lets us know of His displeasure now, so that we can have a change of mind if we have eyes to see His hand at work in our disagreeable world. He is calling us to turn away from independence to be dependent on Him by experiencing His judgment.

Therefore He takes action to bring us to our senses so that we can have a change of mind and return to Him.

*'And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things.'* (Rom 2:2) And none of us can claim to be innocent bystanders. "*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*" Rom 3:23

It is clear from the Bible that any idea of God's intention to make us comfortable in the world is a complete fallacy promoted by the forces of evil. God's wisdom is not, and never was, a promise to keep sinful mankind happy in the world of darkness controlled by Satan. God's love means He will never want to make us comfortable in our ungodliness so we would have no reason to turn our backs on the dark wisdom of the world.

God never promises Christians who have surrendered to His rule a rose garden so that they will have a trouble free life, rather the reverse; He says we will have tribulation. John 16:33

Indeed God calls us to turn away from the thinking of the world of darkness in order for us to know the peace that comes by living with Him, even in the darkness of the world. John 15:16

Calling us out of the world doesn't mean earthly bliss; it means we no longer living according to the ways of independence and disobedience.

We are to live in the world with all its horror, but not to think and behave like the world. Jesus said: *"they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one."* John 17:14-15

True happiness is not about having a good comfortable life in this world; the happiness of those who are totally dependent on God is not about what they have in the world, or even that they have God's gift of forgiveness; real happiness is that we have God to enjoy forever. John 17:3

### **God seeks repentance from independence**

What is God working to achieve by giving man over to his sin? He wants people to do an about turn and come to Him as the Father of the living to enjoy eternal life. *'For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son.'*

Rom 8:29

God uses both miracles and judgments to prompt our repentance, our change of mind. When Jesus did miraculous things, it was a sign that God was working personally in their communities. These miracles should have prompted everyone to look to their own hearts in the light of the glory of God working for their favour. Jesus call on everyone by saying: *"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."* Matt 4:17

But instead of being confronted by their sinfulness in the sight of the glory of God and repenting, they mocked Him who was God in the flesh who came to die for their sin.

If we live according to our own understanding, God is not our God but our imagined puppet.

Good people who do things their way independently of living with God daily, spread the lie of the puppet God who has to accept human efforts that allow people to enter heaven on their own terms, instead of following the example of Jesus Christ by believing in Him and obeying Him in all things.

Jesus said: *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”* John 14:6

The only way is the way of Jesus Christ in giving up our independence, just as the apostle Paul said. *‘I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.’* Gal 2:20

*‘And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.”* Luke 9:23-24

### **God’s wisdom works through our troubles**

In His eternal wisdom and supreme rule over all things, God gives us over to our depraved minds that we might finally turn to Him and repent of our declaration of independence. Rom 1:28

In order to know how to deal with these disturbing and trying situations we will experience in the world, we need to see God's wisdom at work in tribulation for our benefit. We need to acknowledge God is at work in all things, we need to be asking ourselves, “What does God require of me in this situation”?

We need to seek God's face to gain the wisdom He promises so that we can know peace in a troubled world. *“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”* John 16:33

### **Jesus shows us the way of perfection through suffering**

Suffering is the tester of faith. Suffering can build up our faith or expose our weakness. Untested faith is a mirage. Adam failed the test

of faith. If we are to grow in our obedience and trust in God, we need to be tested by adversity.

Therefore according to God's providential sovereignty, we live in a fallen world that is engulfed in crises. His wisdom shows us all the suffering that occurs in the relationships of men on earth was caused by our rebellion. Suffering and blinding darkness was the unseen pathway Adam chose for us when he defied God.

We have violent crime, financial hardship, extensive famine and wide spread disease, endless wars, and the continuing threat of even greater wars and suffering looming over us like a dark cloud. Where there was once peace and harmony in creation, we now have catastrophes. Man suffers from the extremes of nature, drought, flood, fire, earthquakes, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions.

The number of illnesses and diseases that can bring disability and death are encyclopaedic, and while God's grace has enabled medical advances, mankind in most part lives with the unspoken fear, they are next, and death is at the door.

The more the world struggles to control all things, the more it realises there is something it cannot prevent, it can't control the weather, and it certainly cannot prevent death.

Suffering is for all of us, but peace is possible in the world only through Jesus Christ as the saviour of the world, for all who will believe in Him and obey all He has commanded will have intimate knowledge of God in abundance. God gave Jesus Christ the founder of our salvation, "*perfect through suffering*"? (Heb 2:10) "*He learned obedience through what He suffered*?" (Heb 5:8) Jesus was "*made perfect*" through His suffering.  
Heb 5:9

As the Creator of all things, with all power and the control of nature, He denied Himself the protection of this heavenly power, and instead identified Himself with us in His earthly life. He '*was tempted in every way that we are.*'  
Heb 4:15

As our representative perfect man, the Lord Jesus would not use His power to save Himself from identifying with our suffering. Instead of

avoiding suffering as we would do, He shared in our weakness as human beings, and like a lamb allowed Himself to be led to the slaughter, to die the death we deserved.

He provided the perfect sacrifice in our place when He offering Himself as the perfect peace offering, in order to gain for us forgiveness of sins, and eternal salvation; so that we might share in His glory. In His suffering He put His trust in God, giving us the perfect example as the first born Brother of salvation, so that we can put our trust in Him.

He was made the perfect sacrifice to be our perfect High Priest, and we who follow Him are made perfect to be His royal priesthood *'For in Him you have been made complete.'* Col 2:10

Mankind's sorrow was the divinely chosen highway to heavenly joys for the Lord our God. Gethsemane was His only entrance to Paradise. The cross was the ladder He needed to climb to regain His crown. He was made perfect through suffering for our security with God.

As the light of the world, He shows us the way to life and peace. *'He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me."* Luke 9:23

We are quick to hold up the suffering of our Lord as something that is commendable from a human point of view, but we often want to hide any idea of sharing His suffering by identifying with Him, because we desire smooth waters and a warm bed.

But suffer we must if we are to be like Him. *'The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.'* Rom 8:16-17

When Jesus Christ suffered crucifixion in our place, He had a future of intense heavenly glory in the presence of God awaiting Him. The people of God in Christ, who suffer with Him, also have a future of intense heavenly glory awaiting them which no man can take away. 2 Cor 3:18

*'In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.'* Eph 1:10-12

### **God trains us through suffering**

*'It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?'* Heb 12:7

Where it says, "*for discipline*" the original Greek word for discipline has the primary meaning of "training" as in the way a father trains his children to reflect His values and good character. God is: *'Training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.'* Titus 2:12

We are undergoing on the job training in righteousness in the darkness of the world, so that we become mature in faith as we grow in the light and the knowledge of Christ.

We are destined to experience God's education in holiness through hardship and affliction because they are inescapable realities in earthly life. In His suffering Christ trusted in God, and He is our perfect example today.

As the followers of Christ we take up our cross and suffer with Him to the glory of God. Luke 9:23 Rom 8:16-17

As we are confronted with painful experiences, we need to learn not to react as we would if we were still in the world, blind to God and without the life of God to give us strength and wisdom.

We need to learn through experience to deny the old life we once lived, we are to refuse to use anger as a way of overcoming others, we are to refuse unkindness and all the old attitudes of the flesh, and instead have the attitude of Christ, (Phil 2:5) and put on the love of Christ who now lives in us. Gal 2:20

### **God promises His fellowship when we suffer**

Life in union with Christ was never promised to be a party. It was always going to be in fellowship with His suffering. (Phil 3:10) Jesus

made this clear when He said: *"In this world you will have trouble."* (John 16:33) But in our suffering we have the promise of His presence. *"I will never leave you."* Matt 28:20

In our relationship with Jesus Christ we have received something others could never have; we have the added strength of the Spirit of promise. *'For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"'* Rom 8:15

Also, while we would suffer with Him, Jesus would also assist us since He has overcome the world. *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* John 16:33

For strength and guidance we look to Jesus, *"the pioneer and perfecter of faith."* (Heb12:2) Looking to Him we will not be crushed by suffering but will come with our faith intact, as *"tested by fire"* so that it *"may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ."* 1 Peter 1:7

The faithful believer does not question God's goodness in bad times; rather, they know difficult trials prove that we are truly the children of God as He works for our good. *"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love Him."* James 1:12

God also uses suffering to help take our eyes off this world and turn them to the greater reality above, Jesus Christ on His throne. Rev 4:2-3, 5-6

Look how many personal references Jesus makes about how we should consider our unity with God.

*"You will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."* John 14:20

*"We will come to him and make Our abode with him."* John 14:23

*"I will come to you."* John 14:28

*“Even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us.”*

John 17:21

*“I in them and You in Me.”*

John 17:23

*“I will never leave you.”*

Matt 28:20

## **God's love makes the difference**

One thing that makes everything enduring is the love of God. *‘The love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.’*

Rom 5:5

By faith, when everything is telling us otherwise, we have the assurance we are in Christ and His love abiding in us allows us to endure our training in righteousness.

*“If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.”*

John 15:10-11

We have His love because we have the Spirit of God.

*‘Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God.’*

1 Cor 2:12

His indwelling Spirit means we are bound together with God and God to us. It is the Spirit of God that makes God's love our own, and He brings it to life in us without limit or measure.

John 3:34

In fact, nothing can take God's love from us. *‘But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.’*

Rom 8:37-39

Whatever our Father chooses we experience, He gives us the power to accept it with His grace, which is His love that overcomes the world.

## **God is our divine helper**

God cannot be separated from His love. God's loving presence is our guarantee of victory. Our Lord and saviour has promised He and the Father will come and live in us. He promised the Holy Spirit of God who would be in us and He Himself would come to us in person.

*“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”*

John 14:16-18

*‘The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God.’*

Rom 8:16

The indwelling Father and Son in believers is so important Jesus made a number of references to the fact of their divine presence, (already mentioned) so that we can at least be able to accept it by faith so that the Spirit of God can show us the reality of their presence. John 14:25

### **We have God, but does God have us?**

Where has God placed you in the world for your training in righteousness? Are you in poverty, in prison, or being persecuted? Are you alone, alienated or under constant attack? Are you with illness, disabled or mentally disturbed? Do you feel like you are constantly misunderstood by your family, friends and your employer?

If there is no struggle with the world it equals a lack of training; the greater the struggle the greater the reward. Our inability to have victory over the flesh and the world and remain in peace when the battle rages, is not due to a lack of available heavenly power.

We have Christ, *‘In Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.’*

Col 2:9

Our lack of success in growing in likeness to Christ is due to the sinful obstructions that entangle and cling to us because we have too much of our desires still invested in the world, (Heb 12:1) with the result that we forget the blessings of God in Christ, and we are then unable to be strengthened with power from above.

Instead of being worldly we need to '*consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin.*'

Heb 12:3-4

It's not so much the particular drama, great or small, that we find ourselves living out, but whether we live by faith in trusting God as we look forward to our heavenly rewards. Do I walk with God or find myself alone? Am I looking forward to my heavenly home or lost in the world?

No forward vision of our heavenly home means we crumble under the impression of darkness that overwhelms the earthly minded. Remember, if we are really in Christ we have possession of all the goodness of God, and the Holy Spirit will hold nothing back from those who allow Him to lead them into all truth. "*He will guide you into all the truth.*"

John 16:13

No one who has trusted in Christ is left to live as an orphan. (John 14:18) Those who belong to Christ are taken hold of as possessions of God by Christ.

1 John 4:4

The Father and the Son love us so much they are committed to remaining in us throughout the time of our testing, so they can constantly encourage us with their love, strength and power. This is the truth of walking by Faith and not by sight. This is how we walk with God. This is the only way to walk in peace.

When we received Christ we become one with God, the Father, Son and Spirit. The Son of God has shared with us the glory the Father gave Him, so that we can know through suffering we are included in the unity of the life of and glory of the heavenly family of God. "*The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one.*"

John 17:22

The Lord Jesus wants us to see His glory. "*I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, may be with Me where I am, to see My glory that You have given Me.*"

John 17:24

If we forget our Father and His only Son live in us by the Spirit, our training in righteousness will lack power and purpose; we will have weak hand and feeble knees. (Heb 12:12) The divine presence of the triune God (Father, Son and Spirit) is for our power, purpose and our perseverance.

Faith believes all of what God has said, if we only believe in part, we only know in part, and we deprive ourselves of the fullness of His blessings. *‘To know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.’* Eph 3:19

We can only be at peace in the hands of God if we believe what He has written for our understanding. When we walk by faith and not by sight we will not fall apart under trial, we will hold firm to the one who lives in us so we can be like Him. We will look to Him who sits on the throne and calls us to finish the race so we can sit with Him. Rev 3:21

By His grace alone Christ draws us out of the dark depravity of the world and secures us in the light of the knowledge of the presence of God, without which we would be just as blind and deaf as the rest who think they don't need what they can't see; that is what they don't want to see. For the prince of the world has blinded their eyes to the truth of the glory of God in Christ. 2 Cor 4:4

There is much in the world to give people concern and produce anxiety. If our attention is on the world of darkness we fail in our training. The dark world cannot give security, security is only found in the Lord Jesus Christ. But *“The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You.”* Isa 26:3

### **We have a heavenly home**

God has plotted our course for heaven and divine glory, and He guides us home by divine power through the Holy Spirit. We often have the idea that life will take us on a gentle course and all things will be well for us. But life is not so predictable. Life is not only uncertain but also full of troubles. *“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”* Acts 14:22

We don't plan our untroubled course to heaven. God has planned a course to heaven for us, if we are among those who have died to self so Christ can live in us. *“For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.”*

Luke 9:24

Anyone wishing to save their life in the world, is the one who loves the world, and will not deny themselves and take up their cross to follow Jesus Christ. Staying on the course determined by God is only achieved when we walk by the Spirit as children of light. Gal 5:16

Because the journey is hazardous, with many obstacles established by unseen spiritual forces and powers of darkness, (Eph 6:12) we have to constantly make the correct decisions and adjustments in our lives to ensure we follow the directions of God so we can reach our destination in heaven.

When a trial or difficulty presents itself, the correct course is to follow the instructions of God, given to us by the leading of the Holy Spirit, which means always doing what is pleasing to the Lord as laid out in the book of divine directions we call the Bible.

Because of the many deceptive indicators and twists and turns along the way, if we endeavour to plot our own course and think we can make our own way, we will never arrive at the divine destination God has made available for us.

If we fail to follow God's instructions we are in danger of being swept away by unseen hazards, because we don't know what is around the next corner, or waiting for us at the end of the scenic detour. Great mountain top victories are often followed by dark valleys.

Knowledge of God is not enough to motivate the soul to obey God. Unless the spirit of the man has been totally surrendered to the will of God, so that the Spirit takes the knowledge gained and infects the heart with love for Christ, we cannot know the meaning of His love.

If we live for Him who died for us. *‘He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.’*

2 C or 5:15

This is the big IF. If we live for Him we have the Spirit of God and we delight ourselves in Christ Jesus, who alone has purchased our soul by the shedding of His blood on the cross we deserved for the penalty of our sins. In love Jesus purchased us so we can have heaven as our home.

### **Heaven is home because we are made divine**

We have been given a heavenly desire because we have received a divine nature in order to live with God. *'His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence, by which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.'*

2 Pet 1:3-4

If our new nature in Christ was not made divine by God, the enjoyment of living with the divine nature of God would not be our desire. If the desire for holiness is absent, the new life in the Spirit is also probably absent.

A lack of spiritual passion for heaven will result in living as if our home is in the world. A lack of desire in our hearts will mean our feet and our desires will be still planted in the world.

It is the Spirit of God who creates in us this heavenly desire so we want to grow in our new divine nature in Christ. Therefore it is God who stirs up our hunger and thirst for righteousness so that He might make us happy, both now as we serve Him on earth, and more especially in the kingdom to come. Even then, any desire we might have now for the love of God cannot approach the length and the breadth and the height and the depth of the blessings to come as we will be filled up to the fullness of God.

Eph 3:19

Perfection in heaven awaits those who wait diligently on the Lord Jesus Christ as they follow His directions. Perfection of spiritual service of worship beckons the true disciple of Christ. The perfection of a new heaven and earth will be the everlasting domain of the

perfected saints of the living God. The Lord Jesus promises us a heavenly perfection, if we persevere in following His example as enabled by the Spirit of God.

Our happiness is not to be determined by the quality of our earthly life, but by the quality of our heavenly life and thoughts of Christ who is our life, calling us to be with Him in heaven.

If our hearts are sold out in overwhelming love for Christ as the Spirit desires, then our constant thoughts will be fixed on Him in doing His will until we are joined with Him in heaven as a bride is united with her husband.

### **Heaven is our hope in tribulations**

Therefore we are not to look forlornly or sorrowfully upon our fading health, or think sad things of our dead bones, or dwell too much on the difficulties we must endure in this life.

Instead of looking to the weakness in man and the world, we look forward to the promise of God for our eternal life in the new heaven and earth, where we can lie down in peace and take our rest in the Lord. We persevere because we believe in the promise of eternal rest with God in heaven.

We have been separated from the world by Christ; so we need to be unconcerned about laying down this natural body because we will receive a spiritual resurrection body. We may lay the body down in the dust and in dishonour, but we will receive it in glory and honour as we are joined to all who are in Christ according to His mighty power.

Therefore there is need of a life of faith that trusts in God in all things, and accepts God's hand is at work in the good and the bad as He uses all things for our eternal good on our journey to heaven. Rom 8:28-29

Home is where the heart loves. Our love in devotion to Christ will see us go to be with Him. The chosen ones are lost with Christ in God, always longing to stand with Him forever and ever.

God will lead us home. Heaven will be our home if we faithfully follow His instructions with humble repentance and quick obedience.

Our Father shows the way through His Son, who is our beloved bridegroom, follow Him. *"Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity."*

John 12:25

The world is lost in darkness, but the Lord has prepared a way for us to live in the light of God. And our Father in Heaven won't let us down. *'And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.'*

Rom 8:28

The good God intends is that we be transformed into the image of Christ, (Rom 8:29) and not to indulge in the enjoyment of the world. Therefore: *'The LORD has made everything for its own purpose, Even the wicked for the day of evil.'*

Prov 16:4

Life isn't supposed to be enjoyable; the world is in the power of the evil one. Life is all about our need for love and faith in Christ, and our preparation and training for the Day of Judgment. Without saving faith in God there is no lasting peace in the world.

But God is wiser than the devil; God uses all things the devil devises for our deception to be for our good. God uses the good and bad, all for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.

As it was recorded in the book of Genesis; *'As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive.'*

Gen 50:20

God has given us everything we need for life and godliness, everything, there is no need to rely on human understanding and grumble about the life you see with your eyes.

2 Pet 1:3-4

The real answer to suffering is to walk in faith with God daily in humility and obedience; this relationship of love with God answers all our needs.

The Lord Jesus' daily relationship with the Father enabled Him to endure all things. And since He is our example in all things, if we go on seeking the same loving, humble and obedient relationship with the

Father that He had, because He loved the Father more than life; He will enable us to endure with perseverance.

But He will only do this by our obedient loving relationship with God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit all through this life, until the end which only He has determined.

In this way we have divine peace by His providence and His Sovereign reign in us and through us in Christ our Lord.

Father, your will be done.



# Living Water Resources

## Come to the River

Contents compiled by  
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