

Captive's Corner



"Bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ"

2 Corinthians 10:5

Emmaus Bible Correspondence School Set Free Ministries of Missouri and Illinois P.O. Box 22006 St. Louis Missouri 63126 - 0006

ANXIETY

I believe that we all have a tendency to carry more of life's burden than we were built to bear. That's why our Lord wrote to us Philippians 4:6-7 and 1 Peter 5:6-7. Now, verse 6 in 1 Peter 6 is the key to our problem. We

"In the midst of your trials God desires to draw you closer to Himself. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. See Jam

1:17-19"

fail to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. All comes from Him for our good and the advancement of His kingdom. John Michael Talbot wrote a song on this verse. In it he points out that our tendency to bear burdens is a subtle form of pride. We are saying that we must bear the burden because God is not able to do so for us. Obviously, there are some burdens we are meant to bear and able to bear because it is our responsibility to do so. But on the other hand, there are some burdens that we were never meant to bear because they are simply not ours to bear. In such cases others must lend their aid, or we must be humble to cast

them upon the One Who alone is able to bear them. See Galations 6:2-5 along with 1 Peter 5:6-7. You will also note that the adversary is

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in the center of these trials to our faith. He desires to destroy us and those we love. But the promise is that our Lord will bear us through them and eventually perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle us, and all will be done to His glory. See 1 Peter 5:8-11.

Now, our Lord taught us while on earth that we are not to worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. Matthew 6:34 I believe there is much wisdom for us to apply from this one simple verse. We are often confused and distressed because we pile into one day more problems than we can handle in one day. As you awake in the morning, you need to follow the example of the Psalmist in Psalm 5:1-3,7-8. In the midst of your trials it is God's desire to draw you

“He is not waiting for us to perform but to submit. See Isaiah 30:15-26. He is always in the midst of His people, yet His people do not always have eyes to see! See

closer to Himself. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. See James 4:7-8. I know the answer to "why me?" It is because He loves you that He allows you to enter into His sufferings. Remember, there

was a time in His life when all forsook Him, that is, all on earth. See Matthew 26:56. His heavenly Father was always with Him, and so is your heavenly Father always with you! He cares for you...weeps with you... and longs for you to be full of His joy. Such joy can not be a function of the circumstances of this life, for men are born to troubles as the sparks fly upward. Rather, that joy must come from above as a result of our relationship with God and His people. We have a high calling to be representatives of our great and mighty King.

In the midst of the trials, we learn the reality of the Lord being our portion. See Psalm 142.

Actually, the problems that you now face are equipping you to better serve those with similar problems. As our Lord directs you into the paths of His righteousness in the midst of such trials, then you will be able to help direct others. If we say we are not worthy to serve due to our failures, then none of us would be qualified to serve. The truth of the matter is that we all fail, and we all sin. The marvel of this truth is that there is always a way back into the favor of God and into a useful state. That way is always the way of GRACE as His redeeming love woees us to Himself and reminds us that we experience His blessings as a result of His labors and not ours. He is not waiting for us to perform but to submit. See Isaiah 30:15-26. He is always in the midst of His people, yet His people do not always have eyes to see! See Zephaniah 3:16-17.

Sincerely in Christ,

Set Free Instructor,
Set Free Ministries of Missouri and Illinois