

It Didn't Come Gift Wrapped

Not Every Gift is Gift Wrapped and Tied with a Bow.

But a gift is a gift...

I pray this word will encourage you and be a great help that you receive it and release it before those who need these truths.

Remember this: Sometimes our answers are found in our own pleas. Let me explain using the example found in Psalms 43.

David cried out: "For You are the God of my strength; why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning BECAUSE of the oppression of the enemy?" (Psalms 43:2)

God had not cast David off... quite the opposite. David had gotten his focus off of God and onto the weighty words and wicked ways of the enemy.

This shift in focus made him question God, but he did not question himself and his misplaced attention. He used the phrase, "BECAUSE of the oppression of the enemy..." Notice how he blamed the enemy and questioned God's faithfulness but took no blame for his weighty spirit. David is having an old-fashioned pity party. Remember... pity parties are from the devil and they always make us unproductive and we blame everyone for our misery but ourselves.

Don't miss the evidence of God's chastening love.

This is what was going on. God had not cast off or abandoned His servant. Not at all... He was loving on him. What did God do? Exactly what He tells us He will do. What God did was remove His perfect peace from David, ONLY to reveal that he had redirected his attention off of God and onto the ungodly (Isaiah 26:3). This chastening love seemed, at the moment, as if God had cast him off, but He hadn't. God was turning David back to Himself so that He might restore and reinforce his trust and peace.

The absence of God's perfect peace worked (Hebrews 12:1-11)... and it had David seeking and asking the Lord to "send out His light and truth! Let them lead me, let them bring me to You and where You're working. Then I will abide in Your presence and purpose... You are my God, my exceeding joy. Yes, I will praise You with my life, O God, my God." (Psalms 43:3-4) God's discipline is always redemptive... that He might deliver, mend, feed, and clothe us with His royal garments

(Psalms 103:1-5)...

The Lord will, in His chastening love, remove His peace and this will cause us to be weary, unsettled, downcast, confused, and disrupted in our spirit when we take our eyes off of Him and the race He sets before. When our eyes of faith are not fixed upon Him and His example of bearing His cross (the assignment given to Him, by His Father) they get fixed on something else. Things like ourselves, our circumstances, our culture, our enemies, and our hardships hijack our focus and we fail to live out Proverbs 3:5-6. Then God removes His perfect peace and His path is not so clear anymore. We blame Him, question what's wrong, and put it all on the enemy but usually fall short of acknowledging that it all started with us and our focus of faith.

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This is ALL part of the process of His grace repentance restoring and returning and rejoicing our hearts in His presence and purpose for our lives. As Psalms 25 says, "Good and upright is the Lord, therefore He teaches those missing the mark in the way. The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way. ALL the PATHS of the Lord are mercy and truth (including His chastening love), to those who keep His covenant and testimonies." (Psalms 25:8-10)

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Glory be...

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#nestingwithjesus #psalms #psalms43 #psalm43and2 #psalms42 #psalms32 #psalms25
#isaiah26and3 #hebrews12 #weary #downcast #unsettled #lackingpeace
#pitypartiesarefromthedevil #hearingisseeinginthekingdom #baggageweallhaveit
#moveonpastyourpast #getoveryourmessups #looktoJesus #Heisfullofgraceandtruth
#sinwithsikyourjoyinJesus
#sinwillsinkyourJESUSwillsinkyoursin #somethinghastosink #uswithoursinorsinwithoutus
#Hewillrescueandletyoursinsink