

# When the Good is Hard

## No Good Thing

"So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the Lord gave all their enemies into their hand. Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass." Joshua 21:43-45

**Life, in all its grandeur and glory, will fail you, forsake you, fool you, famish you and make fools out of you — but God and His lovingkindness cannot.**

**As David would say: "Because Your lovingkindness is better than life (for life will fail us but He and His mercies cannot fail) our lips shall praise You." (Psalm 63:3)**

**We hear often that this one or that one was born to do what they do. But what we should want to know is what they were reborn to do — for the glory of Jesus.**

**Remember this:**

**What God says about a thing — is more important than the thing itself. Like life, your life and what you were made for. If it's not in step with what Jesus says about it, what will be the profit of it when you die? Those who live without Jesus die without Jesus. Those who endure through life with Jesus because they trust Him will reign with Jesus in this life and the life to come. Those who denounce Him — He will denounce them. If a man doesn't die before he dies he'll never live when he dies. If he doesn't die, with Jesus, before he dies in this world, he'll never live with Jesus when he eventually dies.**

**Glory be... Your lovingkindness is better than life (for life will fail us but He and His mercies cannot fail) our lips shall praise You." (Psalm 63:3)**

Dangerous days... slippery times call for short, steady and simple steps lived out for the glory of the King. I'm reminded of Psalm 34 and 1 Peter 3, they run in tandem with each other. David says, come, listen to me and I'll teach you the fear of the Lord. And then he begins to teach those who he ask: Who wants to love life and see good days? Then he lays it out... let them keep their mouths in check, their ministries overflowing with goodness... and their mission of peace as a priority. Knowing that troubles, test and trials will come and the Lord will bring us in, through and out of every single affliction to refine, renew and refresh our mouths, ministries and mission to look more and more like Jesus. Those that fear lack no good thing... and sometimes the good thing is a hard thing. That's why the psalm (34) ties in the prophetic toward Jesus. His bones, though brutally beaten and hung on a cross, an extremely hard thing, though an extraordinarily good thing, were never broken (34:20). Why? He gave His life for no man took it. Men in this world can't take what we have already laid down for our Father. Glory be... troubles coming but for those who walk in triumph with Jesus as

the enter the troubles of the day continue to triumph through them, with Him. And as 35:27-28 says, "We can say, "May the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the triumphs of His servant..." Keep looking up, leaning in, listening to and leading others to Him.

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. (Psalms 84:11)

What a comforting word... my source of light and shield of love — tonight and forever.

When the Good Thing is a Hard Thing

"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory, no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly... blessed is the man who trust in You." (Psalm 84:11-12)

Can you hear what I hearing? He is the SOURCE OF LIGHT, SHIELD OF LOVE and SUPPLIER OF LIFE... for all who trust and walk with Him and there is absolutely NO GOOD THING that He will withhold from each of us that trust and obey Him. Yes, EVERY good thing we need, for EVERY thing we face, we are promised. And by His grace and for His glory He will supply all we need to walk through EVERY door He opens.

Ultimately this means He knows best... because what may not seem good at the moment can be exactly that good thing He didn't withhold to keep us humble, contrite and usable. Sometimes the good thing from God is a hard thing we will need to endure for Him and our own good. Like Paul's thorn and Jesus's cross... what do I see in them both? God knows best and we can trust Him with the rest.

He's promised to withhold no good thing from those who walk uprightly with Him. Sometimes the hard thing is a holy thing. The painful thing can be a sanctified thing, a trial ordained by God, that He's using to get Jesus out of you.

He, better than anyone, knows what's best... even when the hard but holy thing was allowed for our good and His glory. We can trust what He knows, even when His best seems undesirable, unbearable and unreasonable at the moment.

Now, we can either press Him TO fix our every distress, to our own fretting and frustration, or press INTO Him, yielding to His wisdom and work in us, that He can delightfully fix us, for the trouble we're struggling through.

#nestingwithjesus #psalms #psalm34 #psalm35and27 #psalm63and3 #psalm84  
#joshua21and43thru45 #romans8 #sparenot #Nogoodthing #psalm84and11 #everygoodthing  
#sparednot #sparednotHisSon #freelygave #freelygives #instructions #principles  
#teachablemoments #lessonsforlife #graceupongrace #instinct #faith #hearingfromGod  
#GodsWord #leannot #fruitoffaith #2corinthians5and14thru21 #2corinthians12and9