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Amidst our Struggle — God is Light

A changing world, a country divided politically, financial insecurity, lost employment, housing foreclosures, failed marriages, unpaid bills, maxed out credit cards, spiritual breakdowns, and a long list of other troubles may have rained down on each of us at some time during the past few years. Some of us may be dealing with some of these troubles today. These storms in our lives may be violent and short lived, leaving a path of destruction as they blow through, or they could be just a slow, steady, long rain, that slowly dilutes us spiritually and prevents us from living the life God desires us to live. Sometimes we just stare out the window, impatiently watching the rain, wondering when it will ever stop. When will these April showers in our lives ever bring May flowers that sweeten our days and beautify our lives?

The book of James in the Bible tells us “when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So, let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.” Difficulties and tempta-

tions are facts of life for each of us and how we deal with them will determine whether or not we will experience true happiness. Most of us do not face hardships with this attitude; it would not seem natural when we are faced with a painful situation. But, we can respond like seeds scattered by autumn winds that endure the bitter cold of winter. Our attitude is like the soil that surrounds the seed. When the rain hits the right kind of soil, it drains well, so the plants do not die and it has the proper nutrients, so it will produce abundantly. Similarly, the wrong attitude can kill us spiritually and will not produce a harvest of believers.

Knowing that these trials are God infused nutrients that mix with the soil we live in, should encourage everyone to pray to God continually. This knowledge should help to change our negative attitude in the midst of these tough times. We can experience joy during these trials, because through them, we learn to be patient, knowing God is continually renewing those who trust in Him through the love and grace He showers on us.

God also is the only one who possesses the main substance that allows growth to occur;

without it, no seed would grow and we would be dead both physically and spiritually. God is light; He sustains and promotes growth to all who worship Him and believe in His Son Jesus. Our God is an awesome God; He reigns from heaven above with wisdom, power and love. Let Him help you to experience joy, even though you are facing troubles in your life. Reach out to the life-savers He is sending to you; better yet, get on board His ship. It will never sink, no matter what storms you go through.

PS: I am going to Haiti the 1st week of June with 15 other individuals to do a medical mission trip. Please pray for us and if you would, please send me an email letting me know that you will be praying for me and the team June 4th-12th. It would be very encouraging.

Thank you for your support.

Dr Harold

My heart goes out to Dr Jim Brown's wife and family on his death. He was an OB/GYN colleague, friend and brother-in-Christ. It was a joy knowing him and that he is now at peace with Jesus.