

Quick Fixes

*“Lord, when you favored me, you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.”*

Psalm 30:7 (NIV)

Some well meaning Christians have no concept of how dark the Christian life can be at times. They have never experienced what Job did when he cried out in anguish as recorded in Job 3. These misguided Christians think there is a quick fix for every spiritual problem.

We live in a day of quick fixes where we think doctors can prescribe a pill for everything. All we need to do for our medical problems is pop a pill and everything will quickly be fine.

But sometimes life is not as easy as we might like it to be. All of us have a desire for speedy relief from what ails us. We are delighted when we can make a quick shift in our situation and the problem is solved. No one wants it any other way.

But when it comes to solving problems we often discover that life is not that simple. This was the situation with the man who wrote our verse today. God's favor made him rejoice. But then it seemed that

for some reason God withdrew from him and he was greatly distressed because he did not understand the chill in his soul.

I know that many of my readers have come to such a dark valley in their journey through this world. You have kindly written to me and shared your trauma and the pain of wondering where the Lord is in times of distress.

My word of advice is to start by investigating your personal life for any sin that might hide the face of the Lord from you. Carefully examine your recent past that preceded the loss you sense. Make sincere confession of any sin that may have happened. Be sure that it is not sin that has hidden the Lord's face.

Remember the verse that says, Isaiah 59:2 (NIV) “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.”

Pray your way through

Psalm 30 again and again until the Holy Spirit comes and delights your heart with a fresh vision of the Lord you love. Make the prayer sincere and steady. Keep at the matter until you see the Lord's face again. Persistent prayer prevails in the courts of heaven (Matthew 7:7).

Always remember that the Lord delights in His children when they humbly look for Him to come and fill their hearts with His love and peace. He Who is meek and lowly of heart (Matthew 11:29) is near those who are contrite and lowly of heart. Keep on seeking. Knock on the door of heaven. Persist through all the storms of life and you shall indeed find that which you seek for with all your heart. This is His promise (Isaiah 57:15).

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