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Daily Devotional - It Is Good to Be Afflicted

JUNE 06TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Psalm 119:71-76

The psalmist rejoiced in affliction because trials added to his knowledge of God. Lessons in the Lord's constancy, grace, and provision were more valuable to him than a sack full of gold and silver. Hardship also enriched his heart and spirit.

Affliction acts as spiritual fertilizer on a believer's faith. Consider how David's radical pursuit of the Lord developed while he was running from a murderous king. The years between his victory over Goliath and his ascension to the throne were physically demanding and emotionally draining. Yet the challenges that David faced molded him into a wise leader, a cunning warrior, and a humble servant of the Lord.

Psalms 4 and 13 reveal that David's struggles taught him dependence on God, perseverance, and many other valuable spiritual traits. The Lord also provided comfort even as He stretched the warrior-poet's faith ([Ps. 86:17](#)). As God intended, David's words continue to offer solace to others who must walk through trials and misery.

By means of affliction, God molds His children into comfort carriers. (See [2 Cor. 1:4](#).) The message we share with others is the one we learned in our own trials: *God is enough. He's sufficient to meet our needs when the pit is deep, the obstacle high, and the suffering prolonged.* Moreover, our own lives prove that no matter the circumstance, God is faithful.

Those whom God leads to triumph over affliction become the fragrance of His care to a hurting world (2 Cor. 2:14). We carry cheer to the discouraged, relief to the hurting, and the message of Christ's love to all.

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