

TROUBLES DON'T HAVE TO PULL US DOWN

Romans 8:28

Introduction: Everybody has troubles sooner or later and sometimes there doesn't seem to be a way out. A few years ago there was a television show that had a song that was often sung and some of the words were: "...Gloom, despair, and agony on me, ...deep, dark, depressive, excessive, misery...if it weren't for bad luck, I'd have no luck at all, ...gloom, despair and agony on me..." All of us could probably identify with this song.

The story is told about a lone survivor of a ship wreck who found himself on a barren, deserted island. He kept asking God, "why, why?" as he gathered bits of debris to make himself a shelter. He then scavenges for food and water and finally gets a small fire going. One day he comes back from hunting for food and finds his shelter has burnt to the ground. Again, he cries out to God, "why, why?" The next morning he is awakened by a ship's horn and sees a boat landing. Excitedly he rushes out to meet the landing boat and asks, "how did you know where to find me? They replied, "we saw your smoke..."

Troubles come to all of us but they aren't always what they seem and they don't have to pull us down.

1. It's easy, even human nature to become discouraged when things are going bad.
2. Of all people Christians should not lose heart because they have God at work in their lives.
3. No matter how painful or severe the trouble is, God knows.
4. For every negative attitude or negative thing we might have or say, God has a positive answer.

- We say: "It's impossible"

- But God says: *"...All things are possible..." "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God." Luke 18:27*

- We say: "Nobody really loves me."

- But God says: *"..I love you..." "...love one another as I have loved you..." John 3:16*

- We say: "I can't go on."

- But God says: *"...My grace is sufficient..." "My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness.." 2 Corinthians 12:9*

- We say: "I can't figure things out."

- But God says: *"...I will direct your steps..." "...Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding..." Proverbs 3:5*

- We say: "I can't do it."

- But God says: *"...you can do all things..." "...I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me..." Philippians 4:13*

- We say: "I'm not able."

- But God says: *"...I am able..." "...God is able to make all grace abound toward you 2 Corinthians 9:8*

- We say: "It's not worth it."
 - But God says: *"...it will be worth it all..." "...All things work to the good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose..." Romans 8:28*
- We say: "I can't forgive myself."
 - But God says: *"...I FORGIVE YOU!..." "...If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness..." 1 John 1:9*
- We say: "I just can't manage."
 - But God says: *"...I will supply all your needs..." "...But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Jesus Christ..." Philippians 4:19*
- We say: "I'm afraid."
 - But God says: *"...I have not given you a spirit of fear..." "..For God hath not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind..." 2 Timothy 1:7*
- We say: "I'm always worried and frustrated."
 - But God says: *"...Cast all your cares on ME..." "...casting all your cares upon Him for He careth for you..." 1 Peter 5:7*
- We say: "I don't have enough faith."
 - But God says: *"...I've given you a measure of faith..." "...according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith..." Romans 12:3*
- We say: "I'm not smart enough."
 - But God says: *"...I give you wisdom..." "...Ask and it shall be given unto you..." "...if any lack wisdom, let him ask of God who giveth to all men liberally..." John 16:24; James 1:5*
- We say: "I feel all alone."
 - But God says: *"...I will never leave you nor forsake you..." Hebrews 13:5*

CONCLUSION:

1. Every person on earth has difficulties and troubles and some are light and some are very heavy.
2. There is a source of help that can bring good out of seeming disaster and that source is God BUT God is a source of help only for HIS Children. Let us never forget that!
3. When troubles come, remember that God is present to guide you through it all. Turn to Him and completely trust Him and God will do what is best for you.