



"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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A QUOTE WORTH READING!

The following is from a sermon I preached. I do not know who wrote this quote. It is very good for our instruction and beautifully written.

The afflictions of the Saints are represented in the Scripture, as:

Appointed

"That no man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that we are appointed thereunto."

I Thessalonians 3:3

"6 Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground; 7 Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward." **Job 5:6-7**

Numerous

"Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." **Psalms 34:19**

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. **II Corinthians 4:17**

"For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry." **Hebrews 10:37**

And when sanctified, Beneficial

"Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations" **I Peter 1:6**

"67 Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word. 71 *It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.*" **Psalms 119:67, 71.**

They wean from the world; work submission, produce humility, excite to diligence, stir up to prayer, and conform us to the divine image.

To bear them with patience, we should consider our own unworthiness; the design of God in sending them; the promises of support under them and the real good of which they are productive.

"The afflictions of a good man", says an elegant writer, "never befall without a cause nor are sent but upon a proper errand".

These storms are never allowed to rise but in order to dispel some noxious vapors and restore sobriety to the moral atmosphere.

Who, that for the first time beheld the earth in the midst of winter, bound up with frost or drenched floods or rain or covered with snow, would have imagined that nature, in this dreary and torpid state, was working towards ITS OWN RENOVATION IN THE SPRING?

Yet we, by experience know that those vicissitudes of winter are necessary for fertilizing the earth; and that under wintry rains and snows lie concealed the seeds of those roses that are to blossom in the spring; of those fruits that are to ripen in the summer; and of the corn and wine which are in harvest to make glad the heart of man.

It would be more agreeable to us to be always entertained with a fair and clear atmosphere, with cloudless skies and perpetual sunshine; yet in such climates as we have most knowledge of, the earth, were it always to remain in such a state, would refuse to yield its fruits; and in the midst of our imagined scenes of beauty, the starved inhabitants would perish for want of food. Let us, therefore, quietly submit to Providence.

Let us conceive this life to be the winter of our existence.

Now the rains must fall and the winds must roar around us; but, sheltering ourselves under Him who is the 'covert from the tempest', let us wait with patience till the storms of life shall terminate in an everlasting calm.

-- Author Unknown