

## *When God Lets You Down*

what then?

No Christian ever wants to admit that he feels God has let him down.

But be really honest now. Don't you really feel disappointed in God?

Does He answer your prayers as you would like? Has He allowed circumstances to come into your life that, if you were God, you wouldn't have allowed, that you really don't understand, and that you resent?

In actual fact now that you take a good honest look at it, isn't it true that you feel God has let you down? . . . your God hasn't been to you all that He was supposed to be?

Unthinkable! Heretical! Awful!

Perhaps, but true none on-the-less!

The very first step to progress in God is to be honest, to see ourselves, not as we wish we were, but as God sees us . . . no matter how much it hurts.

The second is to receive the truth about ourselves in a spirit of meekness.

You see, not only do we mistrust God, but we blame Him for it all.

He is the one who has let us down: Why did he have to let . . . happen to me? Why did I have to be hurt so? Why am I sick? Why do I have financial troubles? Why do I do or say just the wrong thing so often, no matter how hard I try? Why am I not closer to the Lord? God knows I try!

Yes, God is to blame for all my troubles.

You know, the real miracle is that we survive as Christians at all when this is the way we really, honestly think in our hearts.

So, struggling for life, you respond: But it really isn't that bad. I really do trust the Lord. I do love Him. I do believe He has the best in mind for me. It's just that I don't understand why on earth He allows all these terrible things to happen to me.

There you go . . . again!

Now, it's possible that you've been born again of the Spirit of God, that He lives within, that you do love God very really, even very dearly.

But you simply don't understand His workings; and it is, you think, as a result of this that you have some trouble trusting Him.

My dear friend, you need a change of heart and mind in regard to the workings of God and your relationship to them and to Him.

You need a real inner spiritual transformation that will enable you to see God in everything that comes your way, that will enable you to trust Him with every person and every circumstance in your life no matter how trying.

Can you imagine the glorious freedom this will bring?

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.” This is your God-given right.

To gain this freedom involves five things, two of which we have already mentioned.

We need to be prepared to be honest with ourselves in regard to this awful sin against Almighty God . . .the sin of mistrusting Him.

Be prepared to spend some time on your face before Him recognizing it for the grievous sin it is, repenting of it, and asking God for grace to forsake it.

This is the spirit of meekness I said was step two. It’s humbling yourself before God, submitting yourself to Him and His perfect will for you, no matter how unacceptable that will is to the flesh.

More correctly, this is the beginning of that humbling which will need to go on, and on, and on if we are to live in daily victory.

It’s also the beginning of the next step, the spending of all the time required in the presence of God, allowing Him to rework my whole disposition from the inside out. You see, such spiritual victories aren’t mine, but His, His to give as I submit myself constantly before Him in the genuine prayer of love, and worship, and submission.

For this particular victory, the special key is to allow God to convince you in your mind, and heart, and spirit that He is in control, and that in His omnipotence and love, He will indeed do as He promised in Romans 8:28: -work all things together for good so that EVERYTHING He permits to come your way will be for your eternal good and His glory.

Then, by His grace, look to Him in loving gratitude for each circumstance He send your way, refusing thoughts of worry and doubt, and quieting your spirit, choose to live in the peace, the “quietness and confidence” which is “your strength.”

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