

A Prayer of Pain!



My imperfection is more than I can tolerate. That I love You so poorly has for long been my deepest pain, my greatest sorrow. My greatest succour, my purest hope, is that You love me so fully and forgive me so freely.

I preach that my life is in You, my only peace is in believing You, trusting You, resting in You . . . that You are totally & absolutely trustworthy, that You will never do me other than good, not ever . . . that you are forever overruling all the circumstances of my life

so all things ultimately work together for my good, my eternal benefit.

Yet I find myself too often in doubt and discouragement because it does not appear to be so. I find myself displeased with what You allow . . . Even after I have given You willing permission to do or allow in my life whatever You will, whatever You must, to bring eternal glory to You and everlasting good to me and others.

I find myself even sometimes angry with the God who I freely acknowledge to be absolutely perfect, loving, and kind, absolutely capable of doing me only good even in a wicked world.

When I don't find you to the extent I wish, I blame You and wallow in self-pity and pain.

I know that suffering is the purging fire that removes the impurities from the gold of my godly life and prepares me to enjoy more fully walking on streets of gold in endless joy forevermore.

Still I murmur in my soul against the God that allows me to suffer just a little and for a brief moment as compared to the great and eternal benefit laid up for me.

I'm embarrassed that I should have to speak so. And I feel a fool to waste my time on such admissions. I know that time spent thinking of myself is a waste, only attention to You, submissive and free, is of eternal value.

But, perhaps to know my sin and need may be a healthy prelude to calling on You, looking to You, longing for you, worshiping You, praising and thanking You, even resting and rejoicing in You.

May I accept the reality of the pain that is mine in this sinning world, and having done so, go on immediately to thank You that You are bringing only eternal good from it. And this by no means just for my selfish self, but for all the others that I may be used to bless and benefit evermore.

“The whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain . . . and ourselves . . .groan ... waiting for the adoption . . . The Spirit helpeth our infirmities. . . .We know that all things work together for good . . .the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. . . . We are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.

-Selected from Romans 8:18-37

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