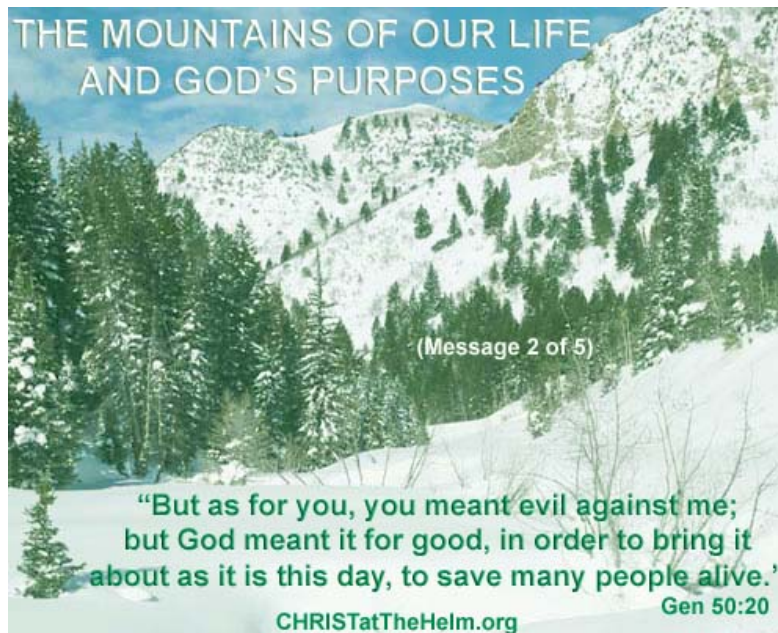


The song by the Gaither singers, “Sometimes it takes a mountain”, starts with these words: “I faced a mountain that I never faced before, that's why I'm calling on You Lord, I know it's been a while but Lord please hear my prayer, I need You like I never have before.” Then further below it adds, “Your love is so much stronger than whatever troubles me, sometimes it takes a mountain to trust You and believe.”

Have we ever faced a serious and enduring trial that has shaken our life to the very core? If we did, it surely helped us realize how much our Savior and Lord must have felt when facing the pain, abuse and the horrific crucifixion he suffered. That’s why 1Peter 4:12-13 says, “Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s sufferings.” If we are challenged and facing trials in our life, let’s always remember that we can find solace and encouragement through the Word of God. Let’s be encouraged and remember that Christ, our Lord, is always present at all times. The reason we can confess, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of “Christ At The Helm” author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



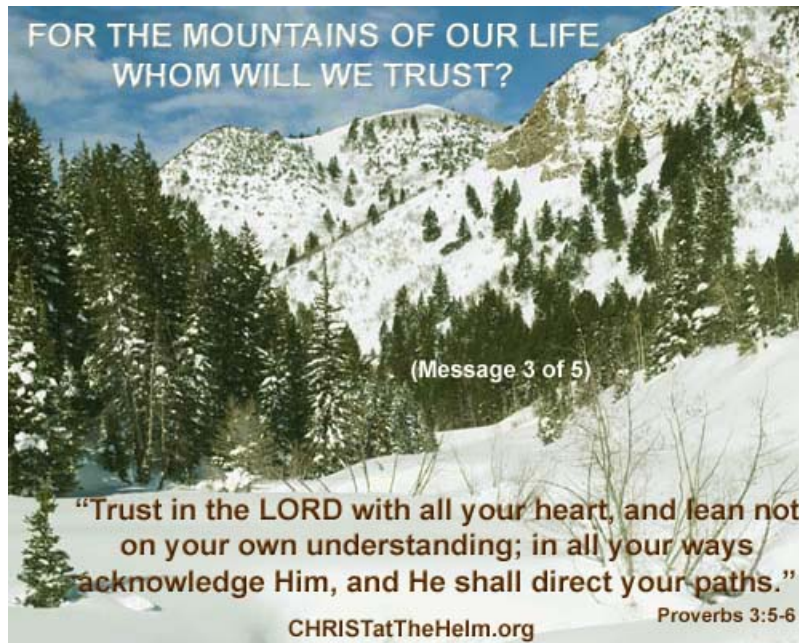
The featured scripture illustrates how sometimes God allows challenging trials in our lives for a higher purpose. In this case, Joseph had been rejected by his brothers, sold into slavery and for many years, even through trials and challenges, he kept his faith in God. God's purpose was to save Joseph, and later his family and the Jewish nation from famine, and it happened as a result.

Peter said, "The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." (2Peter 3:9) In other words, God's purposes have always for goal to lead us into His path for our lives, and to bless us in the end.

In Rom 5:3-4 Paul said, "But we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope." Obviously, if God allows trials in our lives, He seeks a higher purpose and sustains us all along. In Hebrews 4:13 Paul added, "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin."

The higher our mountain of trials is, the closer our Lord is, and the more we must trust Him. Will we?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of "Christ At The Helm" author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



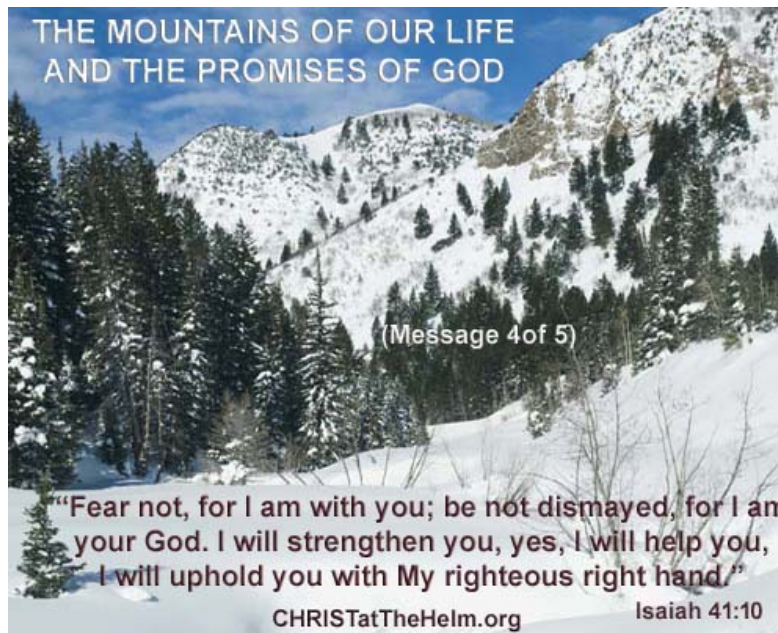
Are we presently facing a mountain of challenges in our life? If so, what does the Lord desire we do? As the featured scripture says, “TRUST HIM”, right?

Paul in 1Cor 16:13 gives us a command and exhortation to live through such circumstances so as to come out victorious: “Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.” In other words, it means to put our foot down on our determination to trust God completely, even if circumstances appear bleak. If we say we trust God for eternity, shouldn’t we start trusting Him with this life?

Then, in Philippians 4:6-7, he gives us a sure way to trust the Lord, saying, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

In Rom 12:2 Paul also enjoined us to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” In essence, let’s feed our minds with God’s Word, so we can grasp and understand His purposes. As we do, the Holy Spirit helps us build our faith and as a result we can say “In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” Rom 8:37 Will we?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of “Christ At The Helm” author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



What are God’s promises for us when facing serious struggles that seem to never end? In the featured scripture, God says He will strengthen us; help us and even hold our hand throughout the trials. This tells us that while God will not necessarily remove the problem, He is always at our side to guide us and strengthen our faith in the process.

Jesus, in John 16:33 said, “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” Obviously, trials are and will always be part of this life. Why, some might say? Let’s never forget that it is man who chose to disobey God, which resulted in bringing sin and death into our world.

Thankfully however, Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross gave us access back to God, and eternal life in His presence. Paul in 2Cor 1:3-4 said, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation.” Jesus added in Mat 11:28, “Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

Will we trust God even through trials, lean on Him to strengthen us, and stand by faith in His perfect eternal plan?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of “Christ At The Helm” author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com



Nothing brings us back to reality better than meditating on who God is, His Word. To start with, we know that God loved us before we were even lovable. However, the realities of life, its struggles, trials and even tribulations have a way to distract us from God's love. Here are a couple of scriptures to remind ourselves of His love, and that we should keep close to our hearts, so we always look to Him for guidance and inspiration:

“For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor *are* your ways My ways,” says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” (Rom 8:35)

Then, let's think for a moment about the story in Daniel chapter 6. Under the threat of death, Daniel refused to bow before the king as he would only worship God. Then the King had Daniel thrown into the lion's den. Can we only imagine how Daniel must have felt? Yet he chose even to die rather than worship the king. And we know the result... God saved him from the lions.

Is our struggle so big that we can't trust God?

You may reproduce part of the content of this website for non-commercial purposes only. May not be reproduced or featured on any other websites without permission of “Christ At The Helm” author. For additional information or to obtain permissions, contact: christatthehelm1@gmail.com