No Discipline Seems Pleasant

6-22-25

Hebrews 12:11 (NIV)

No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

When we come to know Jesus as our Savior, HE is going to step into our lives and teach us some things. We are so out of step with the ways of God, that God lovingly disciplines us, trains us, into the way we should go. His purpose is to produce a harvest of righteousness and peace in us and around us. God makes us divinely productive. We need to accept suffering and discipline in the right spirit, or it will not produce the intended results. We must realize that God is training us and learn all that we can in our life lessons. God warns us that discipline doesn't seem pleasant at the time. Therefore, we must focus on the harvest it will produce. A good way to understand discipline is the necessity of physical training in athletics to achieve excellence. The word "training" is from the same Greek word where get gymnastics.

Therefore, this encourages believers to exercise themselves in godly discipline. The OT gives us examples of how God disciplines and trains us to trust HIM. Israel in the wilderness. Deuteronomy 8:2-3

²Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³He humbled you, <u>causing you to</u> <u>hunger</u> and then feeding you!

God will lead us in our wilderness to humble and test us, discipline and train us, in order to know what is in our heart whether or not we will keep HIS commands. <u>HE humbled us, causing us to</u> <u>hunger so HE can feed us.</u> Trust is developed. Through disciple God gets our attention, then trains us for our benefit and HIS purposes.

Psalm 119:67, 71

⁶⁷<u>Before I was **afflicted**</u> I went astray, but now I obey YOUR WORD.

⁷¹<u>It was good for me to be **afflicted**</u> so that I might learn YOUR decrees.

God will empower us and take us deeper than we ever imagined. Peter said:

1Peter 1:6-7 NO/OH

⁶In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷<u>These have come so that the proven</u> <u>genuineness of your faith</u>—of greater worth than gold (would result in the praise of Jesus.)

Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:17, "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs anything we will suffer."

Hebrews 12:12-13 (NIV)

¹²**Therefore,** strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³Make level paths for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

Therefore, we need to get with the program and cooperate with God. In the light of suffering, God's discipline, we are to learn and live out the Christian life. Through faith, we strengthen our drooping arms and weak knees and face our difficult circumstances. <u>We make decisions and boldly</u> <u>step out trusting in God's power.</u> Make level paths for your feet means to make good decisions. The word "disabled" literally means "turned aside." We do not turn aside to our harm. <u>We</u> <u>avoid lameness and remain healthy by keep</u> <u>moving forward on level paths of God's training.</u>

Proverbs 4:25-27

²⁵Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. ²⁶Give careful thought to the paths for your feet. ²⁷Do not turn to the right or the left.

Discipline doesn't seem pleasant. However, through faith we know God is doing a mighty work. Therefore, we set our eyes on Christ.

Colossians 3:1-2

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things <u>above</u>, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things <u>above</u>, not on earthly things.