Faith Matters

Daily Devotional - Wednesday, September 19, 2018 -The Blessings of Brokennes

SEPTEMBER 19TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Deuteronomy 8:1-14

God's discipline isn't easy, but we cannot ignore its wonderful benefits to spiritual growth. It gives us an entirely new perspective on the Lord's plan for our life. If we enjoyed a steady, uninterrupted stream of blessings, we might think our Father exists solely for our happiness, and we wouldn't know the truth about who He is.

Think about what we generally request of the Lord. We ask Him for healing, success, or financial security and seek His blessing on our family and relationships. Philippians 4:6 tells us to pray about everything, so there is nothing wrong with coming to God with all our concerns. But we must be careful that we don't inadvertently begin to think of Him as our personal assistant or some sort of catalog, where we place our order and He delivers.

If that is the case, who is actually at the center of our prayers? It certainly isn't almighty God, who as our Creator and Savior is worthy of our adoration and worship. When we find ourselves at the center of our prayers, the end result is the subtle deception that the Lord exists for our benefit. This distortion breaks the Lord's heart and leads us far away from truly knowing His character and majesty.

WEDNESDAY

The antidote for this self-centered idolatry is brokenness. When God says "no"—taking away instead of adding more and then divinely managing what we have, how much we have, and how long we have it—He is helping us keep our eyes on Him. Do not despise such moments. Instead, recognize them as the voice of your Father calling you back into His loving arms.

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