

Be Optimistic

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)

“Think positive! Be optimistic!” we always hear those words from our friends. But it would be more helpful if we understand what is written in the Scriptures.

1- In all things God works for the good: This is the reality with God. Many still have the concept that God punishes or God brings unpleasant things to man’s life. But let us be assured that even in the midst of hard times that a man maybe passing through, God is working to bring out good things.

We watch around us natural disasters like tsunamis, volcanoes, floods, earthquakes. In all these we find much causality in human lives. Towns, cities or the whole country fall into disasters and sustain heavy loses in human resources, basic structures or the economic resources. Then we question God about what is going. But, ***“who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His councilor?”*** Sometimes we blame God about what is happening, ***“But who are you, O man to talk back to God? Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, why did you make me like this?” (Romans 9:20)*** Let us go and look how an artist makes a scaffold. Out of a big rock that is in a round shape or in a form of cubic heavy stone the architect, who is going to make the scaffold will work to cut the stone and shatter. Certain events like floods, earthquakes, deaths or other calamities God allowed but His intention is to bring out something good. ***“Oh, the dept of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments, and His path beyond tracing out!” (Romans 11:33)*** God is the greatest architect working out through certain hard events or situations to bring good things in all conditions and circumstances including trials, problems, sorrows or grief.

2- In all things God works for the good of those who love him: This does not mean that God go good things to those who love Him and bad things to those who do not commit themselves to Him. What we should understand is this: Those who love God and live for Him will find out in every circumstances God is working for their benefit. This is a mystery and the reality. The Bible says ***“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*** God did not give His son Jesus to certain people or certain nation or tribes or countries only, but He gave His son for all the peoples of the world, that to all who believe they receive eternal life and there is no difference. Jesus came to everyone in this world. He died on the cross, He carried our sins and He nailed them on the cross; His blood was shed on the cross for us, to give us eternal life. ***“Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12)*** ***“You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:26)*** This is the good work of God, but only for those who receive Jesus they will receive the good privilege of being God’s children living with God forever. ***“In all things God works for the good of those who love Him.”*** Yet to those who do not love God and those

who do not believe in Jesus, to them God will work to change their minds and hearts to bring them back to Himself. ***“He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9a)*** God will use all the circumstances, troubles and hardships to bring the people to repentance and make them turn away from wicked life of sin; form idol worship, witchcraft, adultery, immorality, murder, corruption and other falsehood practices toward living a life for God- a righteous life, doing His will and His purpose.

3- In all things God work for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose: What is God’s purpose to those who love Him, to those who believe and follow Jesus?

A- Take hold of the eternal life: God has planned for you to live for Him, to fight the good fight of faith until Jesus comes again in His full glory. I charge you, ***“To keep this command without spot or blame until the appearing of our lord Jesus Christ.” (1Timothy 6:14)*** Nothing compares to the promise of living with God forever. Therefore, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling and take hold of the eternal life, not to exchange it with anything in this world. ***“So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” (2 Corinthians 4:18)***

B- Live life and to the full: To those who love God, they not only live a routine life but they enjoy the blessings of God every moment and everyday; a life full of joy, peace and love. Even during hardships their hearts and minds are at peace. They enjoy with the simple things that they have. They always enjoy what God has given them, even for the simple food and drink. Believing in Jesus means living with God. It is indescribable how wonderful life is if God lives with us in our homes; how He takes care of our family; how He protects us and the whole household, heals us from sickness, delivers us from troubles and satisfies our every need.

C- To do good works which God had prepared in advance for us to do: God calls us to do good work. He works on us and transforms us from working to satisfy our ambitions and desires toward serving God and spending our time, effort, money and our resources for a noble task – to serve Him. He transforms us from our selfish ambition toward loving others and serving them. ***“Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness.” (Romans 6:13)***

My dear and beloved: Never in God’s plan to make a distance between you and Him; whatever circumstances or in all troubles let us think and claim His promise: ***“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”***

My Prayer: ***“Heavenly Father, I come before You in the of Jesus. I thank You because You think of me always and You want to bless each and every moment of my life. O Lord, make me willing to love You more, and draw me nearer to You, doing your will and fulfilling your purpose in my life. Thank you Lord, I bless your Holy Name. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.”***