

TRAGEDY TO TRIUMPH

Having a Positive Spiritual Attitude (PSA) means that by our attitude toward life we can turn tragedy into triumph. Many that have gone on before us, who have viewed life from such a perspective, said that they never had any problems, just opportunities. Problems need not be insurmountable when we view them through the eyes of optimism.

Have you ever heard it said, "Bumps are what you grow on!"? I believe there to be much truth in that, statement. If we can think for just a minute, what would life be like if we didn't have problems to overcome? If everything was handed to us on a silver platter; we didn't have to work and our health never failed, our life would become very dull.

Working through our problems and misfortunes helps us to be stronger people. When we suffer through adversity, we learn how to bear up under the load. At times we may feel cheated by our friends and neighbors, let down by our best friends, and think that everyone is against us, But it is during these times we should realize all of the wonderful blessings we have and realize that with Christ's help we can be strong enough to overcome our temporary setbacks.

The misfortunes of life can also teach us where our priorities and "loves" really are. We say that we are not materialists, but when the "Jones's" next door has something new, do we want it? If we lose our possessions due to theft, or fire, does our whole life crumble in front of us? By realizing that life is more than the things we possess (Lk. 12 :15) we become stronger. If things at our disposal, we take them for granted. Once we lose our use of them, we realize how dependent we have become.

Without losing the things we deem necessary; we never realize our dependency on them. Therefore, by going through several periods of "bumps and bruises" we can better appreciate and know what is valuable and what isn't. Those who have never suffered through times of want or despair are the real losers. When tragedy hits, they cannot cope because they don't know how. Some turn to drugs, alcohol, or even suicide to escape their "cruel world" which has dealt them a terrible blow.

I knew of an individual once who for a short period of time went without work. The money ran out, and she hit rock bottom. She went on to tell me that, she was quite scared and nervous during that time in her life, but now that she had recovered, and things were better and if it happened again she would not be afraid. She had learned a great many lessons through that experience. Even though she might find herself in that situation again, this time she did not fear, she was able to cope.

Developing a winning attitude through Positive Christian living turns tragedies into triumphs, problems into opportunities, and mountains into mole hills. "When you are flat on your back, everything is looking up." A PSA is not a "catch all" answer to life 's problems, but it is a road to help one overcome life's many and varied setbacks. Look to God, for in Him every question is answered, in Him every need is fulfilled. I may not know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.