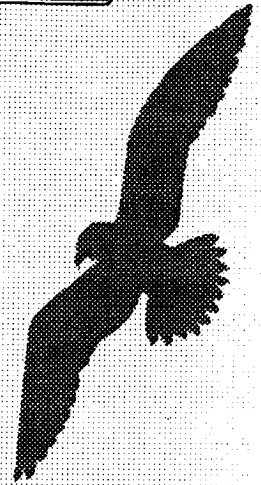


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings
as eagles."
Isaiah 40:31*



AERY NUGGETS

"And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation works patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope."
Romans 5: 3, 4.

Each Sorrow Thou Hast Sent To Me.

*"Each sorrow Thou hast sent to me
Has only drawn me nearer Thee,
Blest Savior! Taught my soul to hide,
In safety, in Thy wounded side.*

*Each step of mine that was unmeet
Has only brought me to Thy feet,
To learn, thro' these, my wilful ways,
A deeper, sweeter note of praise.*

*Though anguish fill my breaking heart,
When called from one I love to part,
It doth but loose from earth's dark shore,
And make me long for Thee the more.*

*The joy, rebuke, the grief, the pain,
Thou sendest, Lord, is all my gain;
For all things work for good to one
Who loveth God, and Thee His Son."*

—Helen McDowell

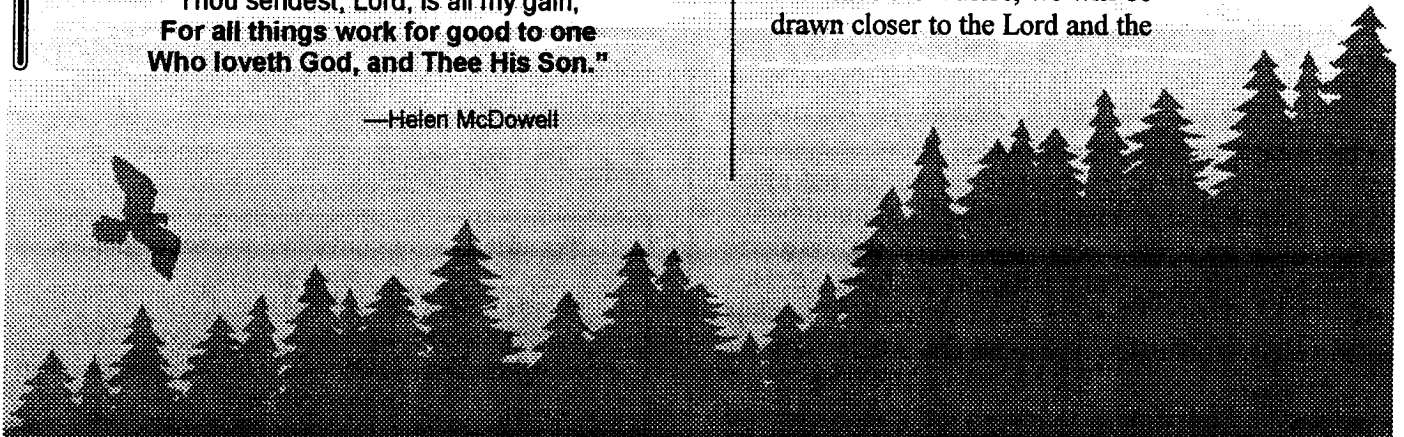
"Everybody is not passing smoothly through this life, though some may be more so than others. But, after all, it is only "for a season" and "if need be." The One who holds the reins of the need-be is God. He does not take pleasure in afflicting. If there is the need for it we go through the trial, but it is only for a moment." J.N.D.

Dear Friends,

Have you ever been disappointed? I am sure that every one of us has been disappointed at different times in our lives. The things that we had hoped for or counted upon just did not turn out the way we wanted them too. It may have been the loss of a job or worse yet, the loss of a dear friend or a member of our family, a wife or a husband.

I remember one time when I was disappointed someone called my attention to the fact that I needed to change the first letter in the word "disappointment" from a "d" to a capital "H." If we read it with a capital "H" it spells out two words "His appointment."

As we take our disappointments and those burdens that weigh us down to the Lord and leave them there, we will be drawn closer to the Lord and the



result will be peace in our hearts and lives. The apostle Paul brought his disappointment to the Lord three times and then found that it was His appointment. The Lord did not take away Paul's thorn in the flesh but instead gave Paul to experience His wonderful grace. God told him, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12: 7-11.

As a result Paul learned to boast in his trials and to take pleasure in his weaknesses and persecutions because when he was consciously weak he then could realize God's strength. As he was inspired to write, "When I am weak, then am I strong."

One has said and I quote: "Conscious weakness causes a saint not to dare to move without God." And again "The place of strength is always that of being forced to lean on God." "The eternal God is thy Refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms." Deuteronomy 33:27. Disappointments are easily turned to His appointments when we are made to lean on those everlasting arms of God's love and strength.

Some of the most encouraging hymns were written by believers who had been through the deep waters of disappointments and sorrow. An example of disappointment made into His appointment is found in this hymn.

It is Thy Hand, My God!
My sorrow comes from Thee!
I bow beneath Thy chast'ning rod:
'Tis love that bruises me!

My God, Thy Name is love,-
A Father's hand is Thine:
With tearful eyes I look above,
And cry, Thy will be mine!"

Here my poor heart can rest,
My God, it cleaves to Thee:
Thy will is love, Thine end is blest,
All works for good to me!"

—James G. Deck

We are reminded that we are not to despise or take lightly the chastening or discipline of the Lord. Why not? "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth."

Chastening is a proof of His love for us. We are reminded further on that this chastening, these disappointments will not seem to be times of joy for us but often times of sorrow. But if we make them His appointments we will be drawn closer to our Lord and He will be glorified through the fruit it will produce in our lives. See Hebrews 12:5-11. Job, I believe, is an example of turning disappointments into His appointments. After losing all his possessions and his children he said: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the

name of the Lord." Job had much to learn through his disappointments. He learned to bow beneath God's chastening hand and give all the glory to God. These words of his find a sweet response in our hearts today. "I know that My Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; And though after worms this body have consumed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, for this my inmost soul with longing waits." Job 19:25-27.

Another hymn written by Helen McDowell expresses so beautifully how disappointments can be turned into His appointments.

"Under Thy rod, O God, my God!
My soul would meekly bow,
E'en if 'tis nought that I have sought
Which brings me down so low;
For souls expand beneath Thy Hand,
And while they suffer, grow."

"Under Thy rod, O God, my God!
I do not bow in vain,
For though I weep, I surely reap
Treasures of golden gain;
And ev'ry one Thou callest "son"
Must bear correction's pain."

"Under Thy rod, O God, my God!
Though sore the trial be,
I would not lose, if I might choose,
Thy look of love I see:
Father, I bless thy faithfulness--
Proof of Thy love to me!"

None of us know what the future holds for us but we do know that "our times are in His Hands." We are living in perilous times and all around us we see the nineteen things mentioned in 2 Timothy 3:1-5 that characterize the last days. Yet we need not be discouraged because we know that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. We then can say with the apostle Paul: "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8: 37-39.

In His wonderful love,

John D. McNeil

For address correction or free new name addition,
write to:
Leslie L. Winters or Christine Albury