



### **ALL THESE THINGS ARE AGAINST ME**

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We read in **Genesis 42:36**, **“And Jacob their father said unto them, Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me”**. Needless to say, everyone of you reading this newsletter at some time have felt that everything in your life, that was taking place, was totally against you. Everything that you attempted to do, no matter what it was, you felt profuse adversity and great opposition. No matter what you did the circumstances never got better, but rather they continued to get worse. When we find ourselves in such a time as this, it is easy to become discouraged and beleaguered. Satan is untiring in his assaults against the child of God. Many times it appears as though from sunrise to sunset everything is against us. Satan is a master at both creating circumstances that will discourage us, as well as cause us to become weary and tired. When Jacob’s sons had gone down to Egypt to buy food from Joseph, they were unable to recognize him as their brother. Joseph told them that he perceived that they could possibly be spies. Therefore, he was constrained to keep Simeon in prison while they returned home. Jacob instructed them that when they returned, they must bring their youngest brother with them to prove their innocence. What a heart wrenching sight that must have been for the brothers to watch Joseph’s soldiers take Simeon and bind him before their eyes and put him in prison. Jacob, being a very old man was very uncertain about allowing them to take back his youngest son. It is easy to understand the negative mindset that Jacob must have had in

thinking that Joseph was dead, Simeon was now being held in prison, and now the Prime Minister of Egypt demanded that they bring back their youngest brother, Benjamin, when they returned. Put yourself in Jacob’s situation. How would you feel having all three of your youngest children being made subject to death or prison? No wonder Jacob made such a profound statement: **Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me!** No doubt within each of our own personal lives there have been times when we felt like everything was against us and that we could not continue on in our pilgrimage. Make no mistake about it, life is filled with difficulties. We read in **Job 14:1-2**, **“Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not”**. As we grow older we understand the brevity of life. Daily our lives are filled with trouble on every side. We soon understand as Job did, that we come up out of the soil like a flower and are soon cut down. We are just like a shadow that we see crossing the lawn of our yards on a sunny day and then we perish. The psalmist declared in **Psalms 34:19**, **“Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivered him out of them all”**. The word **affliction #7451**, in the Hebrew means, ‘something that is bad or of inferior quality’, it also means ‘to be unpleasant, giving pain or causing unhappiness’. Thus, many are the afflictions of the righteous. However, being a blood bought, born again, child of God, one must understand that our lives will be filled with difficulties. Peter declared in **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:12-13**,

**“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be that also with exceeding joy”**. The word **strange** in the Greek means foreign. Peter wants us to understand that when we enter into great trials and trouble, that nothing strange or foreign is really happening to us, but rather this is a part of our pilgrimage. Peter admonishes the child of God to rejoice because we are partakers of Christ sufferings. I know it is hard to rejoice when everything is against you, but we are told to rejoice because when the **glory** of God is revealed in us, that we will be filled with exceeding joy. Peter is actually talking about the second coming of Christ our Lord. For Peter declared in **1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:7**, **“That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ”**. It will be at Christ second coming that you, my friend, will receive your glorified body, and you will take part of his glory. We can also affirm this truth found in **Colossians 3:4**, **“When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory”**. You should be excited for what will be your ultimate destiny. Secondly, difficulties will bring discouragement. Paul declared in **2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 3:12**, **“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution”**. Might I add, the more Godly one lives, the greater the persecution. The key word in this verse is ‘godly’. Paul declared in **2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:17**, **“For our light affliction, which is but for a moment,**

**worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory".** Your affliction, your difficulty, and your suffering truly is but for a moment. However, your suffering works for you an exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Can you imagine an eternal weight of glory? What Paul is saying is that you will, for all eternity, have a glorified body, if you will just endure the hardships that you are having to go through. When you fully begin to walk in the Holy Ghost, you can then be like Paul the apostle and declare **Romans 8:28-29, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren".** Everything that you're going through is not about you, but rather about Him, it is according to His purpose. In Genesis chapter 22, when Abraham was taking Isaac up to Mount Moriah to sacrifice him, Isaac said to his father Abraham in **Genesis 22:7, "Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering"?** Abraham responded in verse eight and said, **My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering".** You see, Abraham declared that God would provide himself the sacrifice, thus again we see this is about God and his purpose. Thirdly, discouragement brings false statements, for Jacob declared in **Genesis 42:38, "And he said, my son shall not go down with you; for his brother is dead, and he is left alone: if mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring my gray hairs with sorrow to the grave".** Jacob believed that he was going to die an old man and gray-headed and all three sons would be lost. When we become so discouraged, we began to make false statements; even against God the

Father. Jacob said "all these things are against me". But the truth was there was nothing taking place in Jacob's life that was against him, but rather everything taking place in his life was for his good. My friend, if you could behold what you cannot see in the natural, you would be rejoicing and praising God for all of His goodness that He has willed towards your life. Remember the words of the psalmist in **Psalms 84:10-11, "For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly".** What most of you don't understand and cannot see, is that you are on the precipice of God doing something in your life so great that you could never believe it possible in the natural. Jacob could not believe what he would soon witness in the natural. [When all this began in the life of Jacob and his twelve sons, it was because Joseph had a dream]. In that dream he saw his family and eleven brothers falling down and paying obeisance to him. His family was described in one of the dreams as sheaves. Throughout the entirety of this whole ordeal there was great weeping and brokenness at every turn in everyone's life. But hear the word of the Lord found in **Psalms 126:5-6, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him".** Can you behold the rejoicing, the joy, and the singing that must have taken place after they were all reunited? The greatest and most precious seed that men possess is tears. David declared in **Psalms 30:5, "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh, in the morning".** All the sheaves did come home and they came home rejoicing! Hold on, child of God, your unseen blessing is right in front of

you. It will not be long before you will be rejoicing and thanking God for all of His goodness toward you. How many times are we at the door of a great blessing and we give up? The King of glory is all about saving lives. If I could impart to you one final statement, please don't ever quit and never give up. Too often it is the darkest night before the light. When the storm has passed there is a brightness, along with even a smell of freshness in the air! There is not one of us who can fully understand what is presently taking place in our lives. However, in not many days you will witness a divine move of God in your life and on your behalf. I feel that for many in my spirit. We want to humbly thank you for the many years of love and support that many of you have demonstrated to us here at The Voice of Evangelism. We are witnessing miracles every day by the many lives that are being touched and transformed by the quickening power of the word of Almighty God. That is why we are determined to always bring to you in each radio or TV program and also with each newsletter, an uncompromising message from the Word of God. Everything in this world will one day perish, but the word of our Lord shall endure forever! God has opened so many doors for us, thus we are committed to remaining faithful with everything that He places within our hands. Until next month, may you run your race and finish your course with exceeding and great joy. What a Savior He truly is!

Serving With You All,

David W. Lankford

**Watch us each Saturday night at midnight on Dish # 267 and Direct T.V. # 376.**