

## The Word of God Helps Us During Times of Affliction

### Introduction

The more experience we gain with God, the more we realize how good God has been to us and the more we realize how precious the Word of God is in our own personal lives.

### 65. Thou hast dealt well with thy servant, O LORD, according unto thy word.

- In this verse, the writer confesses how **well** God has treated him.
- *...according unto thy word.* - Whatever your word has promised, you have fulfilled. Every servant of God can **testify** that God has done him nothing but good, and therefore he can speak good of his name.
- How long has it been since you have **thanked** the Lord for the wonderful way He has treated you according to the promise of His word?

### 66. Teach me good judgment and knowledge: for I have believed thy commandments.

- We all need to **pray** for good judgment as well as knowledge.
- It is possible to have **knowledge** without discernment and without balance (good judgment).
- *Teach me...* - An understanding of our **faults** and a sense of our ignorance should make us teachable.

### 67. Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.

- When there is no affliction in our lives, it is **easier** for us to go astray.
- When affliction and adversity comes, it can bring us **back** to God.
- When life brings affliction upon us, we **learn** that we do not have all the answers, that we have made wrong choices, and that we are ready for outside help.

**68. Thou art good, and doest good;  
teach me thy statutes.**

- God is good (His nature) and everything He **does** is good (His work).
- We should bless the Lord at all times, and keep up good **thoughts** of God, in every situation, especially in the time of affliction.

**69. The proud have forged a lie against me:  
but I will keep thy precepts with my whole heart.**

- The Hebrew word for 'forged' is a **sewing** term meaning 'to patch up' so as to hide the real fabric underneath.
- The proud hate the **honest** life of a Christian and they are quick to ruin it.
- Keeping *thy precepts* will give you a **clear** conscience and help you survive people lying against you.

**70. Their heart is as fat as grease;  
but I delight in thy law.**

- The term 'fat as grease' means that they are **full** of the world and its stuff.
- When you are 'fat as grease', your senses are dulled and you cannot be **touched** by the Word of God.
- When you are 'fat as grease', you are carnal (fleshly minded), pleasures and things that **excite** the senses are what you live for.
- When you are 'fat as grease', you think you are **secure**, but you're not.

**71. It is good for me that I have been afflicted;  
that I might learn thy statutes.**

- Afflictions are only for a moment but the benefits of afflictions are **forever**.
- People try to **hurt** us; but God steps in and uses it for our good.

**72. The law of thy mouth is better unto me  
than thousands of gold and silver.**

- God has a way of **changing** our value system. The things we treasure most in life will lose its importance and our new treasures will be in Heaven.

*"I have met with trials as well as others; yet so kind has God been to me, that I think if he were to give me as many years as I have already lived in the world, I should not desire one single circumstance in my lot changed, except that I wish I had less sin. ."*

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