

The Reward of Victory in the Valley Dec 14th 2025 Bob Metcalf
The Renewed Soul

Life is filled with changes. The green pastures may give place to dark valleys.

There may be loss of health, or property, of friends.

There may be the unknown trials and valleys.

As we travel the paths the Lord lay out for our lives, some lead to places we would not choose.

The paths that lead to the valley experiences of life are unavoidable but these experiences become rich in hidden treasures.

God is present with His people in all their dangers and troubles and that presence of His is the ground of confidence.

Every valley becomes a school of the Spirit to teach us, change us and sometimes break us so that we may walk in a new power and a new spirit.

Psalms 23:1-4

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

² He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

*⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for You are with me"*

1. The Certainty of Life's Valleys "Though I Walk"

Acts 20:19 *"serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews;"*

1 Peter 1:7 *"that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,"*

1 Peter 4:12 “*Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;*”

Life will have its Valleys! They refine us and mold and make us.

- **Flaws Concerning Valley Experiences**

- Because you are a Christian, your valley experiences will always be solvable....not true.
- All your valleys are clearly addressed in the Bible....not true.
- If you have valley experiences after you become a Christian, you are simply unspiritual...not true.
- Being exposed to strong Bible teaching guarantees all your valley troubles will be solved automatically....not true.

Be Careful when interpreting the dealings of God in other people's lives!

It is Biblical to ask why am I in this valley? Yes! In a right spirit and attitude.

Biblical examples: Gen 25:20-23 “*Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah as wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padan Aram, the sister of Laban the Syrian. ²¹ Now Isaac pleaded with the LORD for his wife, because she was barren; and the LORD granted his plea, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²² But the children struggled together within her; and she said, “If all is well, why am I like this?” So she went to inquire of the LORD.*

²³ *And the LORD said to her: “Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body;*

Ps 27:4 “*One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek And to inquire in His temple.*”

- Valley Experience of Hagar Gen 21:9-17
- Valley Experience of Jeremiah Lam 3:1-19
- Valley Experience of Paul 2 Cor 4:7-12
- Valley Experience of Job Book of Job

*“In pastures green?
Not always. Sometimes he who knoweth best
In kindness leadeth me in weary ways shadows be” –unknown*

2. The Valleys We Visit “Through the Valley”

Acts 14:22 *“strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”*

Ps 10:10 *“Their helpless victims are crushed;
they fall beneath the strength of the wicked.”*

Ps 30:5 *“For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime!
Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning.”*

- The Valley of Bacca, *weeping tears* **Ps 84:4-6**
- The Valley of Vision, *death of a vision* **Is 22:1**
- The Valley of Achor *pruning* **Hosea 2:15**
- The Valley of Discouragement *disabling* **Ps 142:4 22:1-2**
- The Valley of Decision *consequences* **Joel 3:14**
- The Valley of Deep Darkness *no guidance* **Amos 5:8 Job 28:3**

3. The Certainty of God’s Grace-Strength “You are with me”

2 Cor 12:8-10 Nlt *“Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away.
⁹ Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. ¹⁰ That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”*

1 Sam 2:4 *“The bow of the mighty is now broken,
and those who stumbled are now strong.”*

- **Grace-Strength and Our Breaking Point**

Gen 28:15 *“What’s more, I am with you, and I will protect you wherever you go. One day I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have finished giving you everything I have promised you.”*

- **Grace-Strength and Our Ability to Receive**

Is 41:10 *“Don’t be afraid, for I am with you.
Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you.
I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”*

- **Grace-Strength and Our Changed Perspective**

Ps 62:1 *“I wait quietly before God,
for my victory comes from him”*

2 Cor 4:16 *“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits
are being renewed every day.”*

In the Valley God becomes more real than on the mountain top

God becomes a reality when He becomes a necessity – Richard Poster