

**The  
Strange Work  
And  
Strange Act  
Of God**

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The Holy Bible is a goldmine of information and records of events as well as personal dealings of some strange acts from God. A diligent Bible student no doubt will have many questions with regards to some of those strange things recorded in the Bible. The implications of those strange works and strange acts, especially for those who have to live out those strange and unexplainable acts, will not escape the minds of the inquisitive student of the Bible. The preacher intends to draw out some of those strange works and strange acts which the prophets of old had to live through and see how we may all learn from those incidents what the Lord intends to do for His people. Hopefully, Christians will be able to appreciate the troubles the saints had to go through and be better prepared for whatever trials and tribulations that may come our way. May the Lord bless the study of His Holy words!

**For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act. (Isaiah 28:21)**

Anyone reading the Holy Bible from cover to cover many times, will no doubt come across certain things that the Lord does that make no sense at all. In our own perspectives, some of those things that the Lord asked His people to do are just too ridiculous. If we were in the positions of the saints in the past, we would probably not have done what God told us to do accordingly. But the Lord has a penchant to do strange work and perform strange act and He does not have to give an account to any of us here why He is doing what He is doing. Of course, the God of the Holy Bible who spoke the world into existence and upholding all things by the word of his power has absolutely no need to account to His creatures what He is doing in time and history. It is the subjects of the Great King who need to take heed to what has been recorded in the Holy Bible and live in sobriety.

All those things that happened and recorded in the Holy Bible are applicable to us: **For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. (Romans 15:4)** So events recorded in the Holy Bible are for our learning and as such, as Bible students, we will do well to take heed and learn as much as we possibly can from the Holy Bible. We will not know when those lessons we learn may be a help to us in times of need. We will never know when we really need those information and lessons to see us through in our hour of temptation. What other saints have gone through in the past will equip us to be better servants to serve our most High God. Our God is still on the throne and He is in control of all circumstances in all nations. **The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. (Proverb 15:3)** Therefore, nothing catches the Lord by surprise. Hence, we will consider some of the strange things in the Bible that the Lord told His servants to do. We will conclude whether the Lord has been unreasonable and whether He has been good and kind to all those who put their trust in Him.

**In the year that Tartan came unto Ashdod, (when Sargon the king of Assyria sent him,) and fought against Ashdod, and took it; At the same time spake the LORD by Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, Go and loose the sackcloth from off thy loins, and put off thy shoe from thy foot. And he did so, walking naked and barefoot. (Isaiah 20:1&2)**

This is the nudist dream verse. Nudists do not have to live in a nudist colony or expose themselves in nude beaches anymore. The scriptures now sanction nudity. Isaiah was told to walk about naked and barefoot. Do you think he was just naked and walking naked in the privacy of his own home? Definitely not!

Why would God call His servant to do such outrageous thing, which is completely immoral especially to the Jews? If you have the tendency to dress immodestly, you do not have to feel embarrassed anymore. Should Isaiah come and visit us in church, you will feel a lot more righteous and holier than Isaiah. Isaiah will surely stand out like a sore thumb and you would feel indignant for his utter lack of holiness and consideration for others. He will be desecrating the church service with his unholy presence.

So how long was Isaiah required to put on this strange dress code? **And the LORD said, Like as my servant Isaiah hath walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and wonder upon Egypt and upon Ethiopia; So shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt. (Isaiah 20:3&4)**

Here we are told that Isaiah walked naked and barefoot not for a few days but for three years. Do you know how long is three years? It is more than a thousand days! Isaiah was not sick in the head and certainly was not an exhibitionist. How do you like it if God ask you to do such a strange thing? It is a horrible cross to bear to be a sign to other nations.

Isaiah must have felt terrible and utterly embarrassed for such a mission. How do you like it when you are being made fun of and people calling you a mad man for doing God's will? People might throw stones at you or spit at you. People might chase you away for you are bad for businesses if you loiter around some business premises with not a single

thread on you. Walking about naked for three years was God's will for Isaiah. What a strange calling! How unbelievable!

Years ago when he first heard the Lord's call he responded. **Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. (Isaiah 6:8)** Little did he realize that when he responded to this call he had to walk naked and barefoot for three years sometimes in the future. I wonder whether Isaiah would have responded so enthusiastically had he been told in advance all his trouble and suffering for the Lord.

**Thus saith the LORD unto me, Go and get thee a linen girdle, and put it upon thy loins, and put it not in water. So I got a girdle according to the word of the LORD, and put it on my loins. And the word of the LORD came unto me the second time, saying, Take the girdle that thou hast got, which is upon thy loins, and arise, go to Euphrates, and hide it there in a hole of the rock. So I went, and hid it by Euphrates, as the LORD commanded me. (Jeremiah 13:1-5)**

What has God's will got to do with an undergarment? What is there so special about this undergarment that it is required to be hidden away in such a far away place? Will it turn into diamond some days later? Do you know how far is the Euphrates from Jerusalem assuming Jeremiah was in Jerusalem? If you measure in a straight line to the nearest point of the river in Syria, it is easily 300 miles from Jerusalem. If you go all the way to Iraq, it is more than 450 miles.

How did Jeremiah get there? Jeremiah was not driving a Lexus RX300, a Toyota Camry or a Mercedes or an MPV or an SUV to cross those rugged terrains. Why would God ask Jeremiah to do this strange thing traveling all the way over hundreds of miles to hide his underwear in a hole of the rock? Do not you think this is ridiculous?

**And it came to pass after many days, that the LORD said unto me, Arise, go to Euphrates, and take the girdle from thence, which I commanded thee to hide there. Then I went to Euphrates, and digged, and took the girdle from the place where I had hid it: and, behold, the girdle was marred, it was profitable for nothing. (Jeremiah 13:6&7)**

Oh, no. Not again! Just when you think the mission was over and long gone, Jeremiah was told to go back to look for his underwear hidden somewhere hundreds of miles away like a treasure hunt. Did Jeremiah anticipate the Lord would ask him to go back to look for this piece of undergarment? Did he make a marking where he hid that piece of trash? The young people would cry why so lame to do such a thing? Is there nothing else better to do? Did Jeremiah protest and tell the Lord he had forgotten where he had hidden his undergarment?

Do you think it is fun to travel so far away to look for a piece of undergarment hidden in such a vast land where landmarks could change over time due to sandstorms and other occurrence? This is totally insane! What is



the chances of Jeremiah finding this piece of good for nothing underwear? What if he could not find his underwear? What is he supposed to do? Why is the Lord doing this?

**Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Thus saith the LORD, After this manner will I mar the pride of Judah, and the great pride of Jerusalem. This evil people, which refuse to hear my words, which walk in the imagination of their heart, and walk after other gods, to serve them, and to worship them, shall even be as this girdle, which is good for nothing. For as the girdle cleaveth to the loins of a man, so have I caused to cleave unto me the whole house of Israel and the whole house of Judah, saith the LORD; that they might be unto me for a people, and for a name, and for a praise, and for a glory: but they would not hear. (Jeremiah 13:8-11)**

Well, the Lord does strange thing to teach the people an object lesson. This will give them a very lasting impression. Looking at that piece of rotten stinking smelly piece of underwear surely bring to mind what the apostate Jews is like during those times. It is indeed very sad for the people of God to be likened to that piece of horribly useless un-wearable underwear before the eyes of the most Holy Jehovah God. The Jews were so bad in the eyes of the God of Israel. Jeremiah no doubt was much moved over such a lesson. Spoken and written words are often not enough to convey the message. What would you do if you were Jeremiah?

**In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Thus saith the LORD to me; Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck, And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah; And command them to say unto their masters, Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say unto your masters; I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me. (Jeremiah 27:1-5)**

Well, I personally do not like to be in bonds. Jeremiah was told to handcuff himself and around his neck to be a sign to those nations round about Israel. Why God just would not simply deliver an open proclamation is beyond me. How do you like it when God tells you to go into self-imposed bondage and make you walk around like a stand in comedian? Can you imagine people mocking and laughing at Jeremiah for doing such a ridiculous thing? Can you imagine what his family members would think of him? Oh, no! My son has gone mad might be one of those remarks from his family.

Nothing strange though. Long ago God told Noah to build a big boat when it had never rained on earth before. Can you imagine the mocking and the cursing as Noah continued his project Big Boat to prepare for the coming flood? The Ark must have been a strange sight no doubt, to those people who perished in their iniquity. Can you visualize what it would be like with that big boat sitting on land going nowhere before the rain came? Did the people consider turning the ground around the Ark into an amusement park?

Perhaps Jeremiah's stock and bond are an object lesson for those nations and like they say "seeing is believing". Jeremiah had become the clown of the town walking around with handcuffs on him. You talk about making a lasting impression in your presentation; this could be one of those means. In fact, the disciples in the New Testament were found to be investing heavily in stocks and bonds literally. They are now reaping investment returns in heaven beyond what PE ratios you could measure with respect to their sacrifices here on earth.

If you consider God asking His people to do strange thing as a cross bearing work, Ezekiel had probably suffered more than the other prophets. He was already living in exile after Nebuchadnezzar carried away captives from Jerusalem.

Ezekiel was told to lie down on the left side for the iniquities of the house of Israel three hundred and ninety days. He had to lie down again on the right side for the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. Do you know how long is 430 days in total? It is more than 14 months. How was he supposed to eat? What was his diet?

**Take thou also unto thee wheat, and barley, and beans, and lentiles, and millet, and fitches, and put them in one vessel, and make thee bread thereof, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon thy side, three hundred and ninety days shalt thou eat thereof. And thy meat which thou shalt eat shall be by weight, twenty shekels a day: from time to time shalt thou eat it. Thou shalt drink also water by measure, the sixth part of an hin: from time to time shalt thou drink. And thou shalt eat it as barley cakes, and thou shalt bake it with dung that cometh out of man, in their sight. (Ezekiel 4:9-12)**

You may say this is insane. Bake cakes with human excrement? Do not you know you can get food poisoning? You remember the Prima Deli chain that sold cakes contaminated with the bacteria? Have not you heard of salmonella bacteria? Why would the Lord want Ezekiel to do such a thing? **And the LORD said, Even thus shall the children of Israel eat their defiled bread among the Gentiles, whither I will drive them. (Ezekiel 4:13)**

So the object lesson here is that the children of Israel will be eating defiled bread in their captivity. The prodigal son was eating swine food when he rebelled. Perhaps after this morning's sermon, no one would dare to respond to God's call anymore. God's will is so unpredictable and could get us all into a lot of trouble when we are not prepared to go through. Fooling around in excrement is really no joke. In fact, this is so horrible that Ezekiel pleaded with a replacement for human waste.

**Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable**

**flesh into my mouth. Then he said unto me, Lo, I have given thee cow's dung for man's dung, and thou shalt prepare thy bread therewith. Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, behold, I will break the staff of bread in Jerusalem: and they shall eat bread by weight, and with care; and they shall drink water by measure, and with astonishment: That they may want bread and water, and be astonied one with another, and consume away for their iniquity. (Ezekiel 4:14-17)**

No doubt, this must be a terrible thing to carry the burden of those who sin. It is so difficult to live as a sign for the rebellious children of Israel. This strange diet for Ezekiel is not something you and I can fully understand and appreciate. It is better to fast than to adopt such a diet. Will we comply like Ezekiel if we are told to sample such a diet for even just one day? Unfortunately for Ezekiel, he had to bear with this diet for quite a long while. The amazing thing was that there was no record of him falling sick after such a prolonged diet on strange bread. Surely Ezekiel could cry out like the psalmist: **Thou feedest them with the bread of tears; and givest them tears to drink in great measure. (Psalm 80:5)** Ezekiel could also certainly relate with what Elihu said: **So that his life abhorreth bread, and his soul dainty meat. (Job 33:20)** It is indeed frightening to consider what the Lord told Ezekiel to do. Who would appreciate such a cross?

After this episode, Ezekiel had a new mission. This is not as bad as dealing with excrement but not something very exciting either. Actually the Lord told Ezekiel to do something quite silly in our own eyes. God told him to cut his hair. But the way his hair was going to be cut would drive a hairdresser nuts. This fashion statement would be too advanced for them to contemplate.

**And thou, son of man, take thee a sharp knife, take thee a barber's razor, and cause it to pass upon thine head and upon thy beard: then take thee balances to weight, and divide the hair. Thou shalt burn with fire a third part in the midst of the city, when the days of the siege are fulfilled: and thou shalt take a third part, and smite about it with a knife: and a third part thou shalt scatter in the wind; and I will draw out a sword after them. Thou shalt also take thereof a few in number, and bind them in thy skirts. Then take of them again, and cast them into the midst of the fire, and burn them in the fire; for thereof shall a fire come forth into all the house of Israel. Thus saith the Lord GOD; This is Jerusalem: I have set it in the midst of the nations and countries that are round about her. (Ezekiel 5:1-5)**

What a strange way to teach an object lesson here. Cutting hairs, burning hairs and scattering hairs was the new fashion statement for Ezekiel to wear. Then keeping a few strands of hairs and then burn them latter on for more effect. Wow, was it a magic show? Maybe David Copperfield could learn something from Ezekiel. Was Ezekiel practicing witchcraft? Harry Potter would have a lot of catching up to do. Ezekiel was well ahead of all those witchcraft practitioners. It is a wonder that those people did not stone Ezekiel for such a strange act!

If God's servants have no faith in God, they will never obey His voice. It is completely against all human logic and a total waste of time to do such strange thing. Why God cannot just do something more sensible in our own eye, the fallen mind would inquire! Another time, God told him to move his stuff around.

Therefore, thou son of man, prepare thee stuff for removing, and remove by day in their sight; and thou shalt remove from thy place to another place in their sight: it may be they will consider, though they be a rebellious house. Then shalt thou bring forth thy stuff by day in their sight, as stuff for removing: and thou shalt go forth at even in their sight, as they that go forth into captivity. Dig thou through the wall in their sight, and carry out thereby. In their sight shalt thou bear it upon thy shoulders, and carry it forth in the twilight: thou shalt cover thy face, that thou see not the ground: for I have set thee for a sign unto the house of Israel. And I did so as I was commanded: I brought forth my stuff by day, as stuff for captivity, and in the even I digged through the wall with mine hand; I brought it forth in the twilight, and I bare it upon my shoulder in their sight. And in the morning came the word of the LORD unto me, saying, Son of man, hath not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said unto thee, What doest thou? Say thou unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; This burden concerneth the prince in Jerusalem, and all the house of Israel that are among them. Say, I am your sign: like as I have done, so shall it be done unto them: they shall remove and go into captivity. (Ezekiel 12:3-11)

This was another insane exercise. How many of you enjoy moving house? You may enjoy your spanking new home but moving things around is anything but fun. Someone mentioned there was an experiment carried out in the German concentration camp. The prisoners were told to move dirt from one place to another. They would then be ordered to move them all back to its original place. This process was repeated over and over again. Some prisoners went mad and ran towards the fence and were shot.

We all have limitation in physical endurance. When we are told to do things that do not make sense, we can go crazy. **The labour of the foolish wearieth every one of them, because he knoweth not how to go to the city. (Ecclesiastes 10:15)** In the army, if you are led by some incompetent section leader who cannot read maps properly and having to bash through jungles like those in Brunei, you might want to do a blanket party on that guy at the end of the exercise. Poor Ezekiel had to move his stuff here and there to teach the rebellious house of Israel what God would do to them. Any volunteers here? Just when you think God was through with Ezekiel, something closer to heart struck him this time.

**Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down. Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men. So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded. (Ezekiel 24:15-18)**

People talk about the stiff upper lips of the British people. Ezekiel was told not to mourn nor weep. Then his wife died and he was not supposed to mourn or weep. This is terrible! The Lord is just so lack of compassion and understanding, you may say. You may protest, this is simply too much. What is the benefit of serving the Lord then? It has brought nothing but trouble to me and my family.

The Mongolians till this day have this practice. They are not supposed to weep for their dead because they believe it will rain on the path of the departed spirit to the underworld to be judged by the lord of the underworld. It must be a very sorrowful affair if you are not allowed to weep for the departure of a loved one. This cross must be very hard to bear. Can you imagine watching the body of your dead love one and you are not allowed to mourn and weep? It might be better not to hold a funeral service. We cannot imagine the anguish Ezekiel had to bear for this trial of faith from Jehovah God. It is a wonder that Ezekiel did not lose his sanity and he went on to write about the coming Millennia reign of the Lord with the restored river of life and temple in Jerusalem and the division of the land to the children of Israel in the last few chapters of his writings.

If you think what God told His servants to do are strange and sometimes even quite meaningless where other better alternatives are available to teach the same lessons, consider what the Lord Jesus Christ had gone through for us. **Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. (Luke 22:42)**

The Lord Jesus Christ was given a strange cup to drink. Christ also pleaded if it be God's will, remove this cup of suffering and death from him. Why must the Lord die such a horrendous shameful death on the cross? Is there no other ways to save Adam's lost and helpless race? Indeed there was no other way other than the way of the cross.

You know why Christ hung there on the cross and suffered such an ignominious death? It is because of your sin and my sin. Christ is both fully God and fully man, the perfect Son of Man. Let us see what the Lord went through for us.

**Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; (Hebrews 5:7-9)**

Strange works are not only dished out to privileged servants of the Lord. Strange things are also part and parcel of the Son of God in His redemptive work for sinful men. Here we see the Son of God having put on the flesh of man had to learn obedience. Learning obedience was not the only issue He had to deal with. Christ even had to pray with strong crying like a child with tears. It is documented for us that Christ even feared. You think our Lord did not understand what we are going through? He feared as well! Can you believe that? Can you believe the Son of God feared?

Did the Lord tell His servants to do strange work and He himself would not do it? He made Isaiah walked naked for three years in humiliation and embarrassment and he was hung naked on the cross Himself for all to see and mock. He made Jeremiah to walk in bonds and he himself was taken in bonds. He made Jeremiah to be mocked by the Jews and He himself was mocked and judged by the Jews. He made Ezekiel eat unimaginable food and He left celestial meals in heaven to eat defiled food with stinking sinful



fallen men on earth. He made Ezekiel cut his hair and beard and He had His beard ripped off from His face. **I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. (Isaiah 50:6)**

God will not tell His people to do things that He himself would not do. The Lord is the Captain of our salvation and He leads the way and He leads by examples. He would not tell us to charge against the enemies and He stays behind in safety. He tells us to follow Him as He leads the way. Can you imagine what Christ had to go through for you and me? Why did the Lord do all these strange work? Nothing better to do in heaven? **But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)**

It must be a very strange experience for the Son of God having to put up with this stinking flesh of man to become our great High Priest by suffering like any sons of man. **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15)**

So our Lord knows exactly what we are going through especially when we are met with strange trials that we cannot understand. Can you imagine those who reject Christ who has done so much for sinners what their ends would be? Can you imagine the end of those Christians who sin willfully after receiving so much grace and blessing from above? **Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace? (Hebrews 10:29)**

Please tell me. What have we really done for the Lord that we are proud of? Just murmuring and complaining when things did not go our way? What about the New Testament saints? Did God put them through strange acts? Peter was told how he was going to die. **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. (John 21:18&19)**

Peter was told he was going to die a horrible death. Some claimed that he was crucified upside down. How many of you would like to know how you are going to die in advance? What if the Lord told you that you are going to be hit by a truck two years from now. You might bargain. Is there a more dignified way to die? Did Peter protest? He had no right I guess. He had denied the Lord three times. Too embarrassed to negotiate having been proven to be a coward in times of crisis when he boasted he would never forsake the Lord.

So this saint Peter wrote about sufferings to minister to other saints. **Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: (1 Peter 4:12)**

Trials and tribulations can be very strange to us especially when we have done nothing wrong. We thought we were serving our Lord faithfully and yet trouble is our portion. Isaiah did not do anything wrong but he was put through a great deal of humiliation having to expose his real ends for three years. Jeremiah did nothing wrong but had to do ridiculous things like hiding his underwear hundreds of miles away and to look for it again. He was beaten and thrown in jail, once was thrown into a stinking well sinking in the mire.

In fact Jeremiah got so upset that he vented his anger on the Lord. **O LORD, thou hast deceived me, and I was deceived: thou art stronger than I, and hast prevailed: I am in derision daily, every one mocketh me. For since I spake, I cried out, I cried violence and spoil; because the word of the LORD was made a reproach unto me, and a derision, daily. (Jeremiah 20:7&8)** Jeremiah was very angry with the Lord. He probably felt so cheated. Guess what? He did not remain in bitterness for very long. He actually wanted to quit but he just could not. **Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay. (Jeremiah 20:9)** Well, Jeremiah just could not quit because of God's words.

Ezekiel did nothing wrong but had to put up with a horrible diet for more than a year, did strange things like moving house everyday and when his wife died he could not even mourn. How do you like it when God dish up lessons to us so that we might benefit in a way we do not understand.

I know it is very tough to go through trials and tribulations having being through some from time to time. It is one thing to comfort you with scriptures over the pulpit. It is another thing to offer meaningful help when required. It is so easy to say I pray for you. But I will try to weep with you. When all help from human agencies failed, it is that the Lord who wants you to experience there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother (Proverb 18:24). I cannot describe it to you; you have to experience it yourself the closeness of God to you in times of need. When you walk through the valley of the shadow of death, it is that the Lord is carrying you. It is so surreal.

This one thing I do know is that the Lord knows what He is doing with our lives and He knows exactly how we feel in trials and tribulation. **For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; (Hebrews 4:15)** The Lord makes no mistakes though we make mistakes time and again. I also know those who have been through the worst form of tribulation can make the sweetest music to sooth the souls of saints in times of need. A saint wrote this song.

**God never moves without purpose or plan  
When trying His servants and molding a man  
Give thanks to the Lord  
Though your testing seems long  
In darkness He giveth a song.  
O Rejoice in the Lord, He makes no mistakes  
He knoweth the end of each path that I take  
And when I am tried and purified  
I shall come forth as gold.**

Dearly beloved, Trust in the Lord. Fear not strange trials that may come our way. Paul also comforted his beloved children in Thessalonica. **For verily, when we were with you, we told you before that we should suffer tribulation; even as it came to pass, and ye know. (1 Thessalonians 3:4)** In his second letter to them, he assured them God would repay them many fold to those who trouble us.

**So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure: Which is a manifest token of the righteous judgment of God, that ye may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer: Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day. Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith**

**with power: That the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:4-12)**

**Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act. (Isaiah 28:21) Stir up thyself, and awake to my judgment, even unto my cause, my God and my Lord. Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine. (Psalms 35:23, 68:1, 78:65)**

**Meanwhile the trusting child of God can rest in the Lord. I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the LORD sustained me. As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness. (Psalms 3:5, 17:15)**

One day, the Lord will more than make it up for us who serve Him and suffer for His name's sake. May we look forward to that glorious day where there will be no more pain, no more sufferings, no more sorrows and no more death! May the peace of God be upon all the saints suffering affliction for one form or another!

**Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen. (2 Corinthians 1:3&4, 13:14)**

**If you have been blessed with the reading of this book and you wish to contact the author, you may write to him at [charles@kiv-asia.com](mailto:charles@kiv-asia.com).**