

## Stronger in Jesus



David Wilkerson (1931-2011) March 6, 2018

As God's children go about their daily routines, moving on in their walk with Jesus, they may suddenly be hit by a storm, a wave of trouble that comes crashing down from all sides. In Psalm 107:23-26, we read about "those who go down to the sea in ships" and are tossed about by stormy winds. The sailors in this account were so frightened that they almost fainted (verse 26).

Now these men were simply going about their business when the storm came. We should note that God himself initiated the storm: "For he commands and raises the stormy wind" (verse 25). God brought the sailors to the place where they were and he raised the waves. It was all his doing!

Christians have a tendency to blame the devil or some particular sin for their challenges; in fact, it is difficult for them to realize that God has brought them into a place of struggle. But our faith can be greatly encouraged whenever we understand that while all storms of life have been ordained by God for the righteous, he has a purpose in it all. "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy" (1 Peter 4:12-13).

God is not surprised by your ordeal. In fact, it is happening because he wants to produce something in your heart — and he wants to reveal his glory to you.

When did the storm stop for the sailors in Psalm 107? When did God bring them into their desired haven? According to the psalmist, it was when they gave up all human hope and cried to the Lord for help.

He wants you to emerge from your trials stronger in character, stronger in faith, stronger in Jesus. Because he loves you!

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