

November 29, 2022

[Isaiah 9:1-7](#)

Gloom, distress, despair, and burdens are feelings that plague us all at various times and in unique circumstances. Nobody is exempt from this as much as we might want to portray ourselves as having it all together or being above the fray. Because we are each wired differently and have unique triggers, how this expresses itself is very specific to us.

When we are in the midst of a trying time, we are always given a choice - do we truly believe that God knows and appreciates what we are going through? Does He really care? Do we really believe God will bring people into our lives to walk beside us and address what ails us? Can God truly make all things right?

The call of faith is to trust that the God who knows you the most (warts and all!) loves you the most. God knows what you are going through and can help you weather the storm. But God is also not simply content to leave us as we are. The promises of Scripture point to abundant life irrespective of the circumstances, and if I am honest, most of my problems stem from my inability to REALLY trust that God has my back through thick and thin. Often, I will lean on my tried and true coping mechanisms as opposed to trusting God's path.

I am not sure if you are in the valley, in the midst of a mountaintop experience, or just lulled to sleep by the doldrums of life. What I do know is that God promises more - will you keep trusting yourself or will you trust that God has a better way ahead?

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