## through it all

"although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: yet I will rejoice in the Lord, i will joy in the God of my salvation." hab 3:17-18 kjv

let us break down a beautiful song. (who said the psalms ended with one hundred and fifty? - His praise continues)

i've had many tears and sorrows,
i've had questions for tomorrow,
there's been times i didn't know right from wrong.
but in every situation,
God gave me blessed consolation,
that my trials come to only make me strong.

who among us cannot say they have suffered tears and sorrows? certainly not me as tears are my daily drink. and oh the questions that fill my mind when it drifts from the Lord. is this the right thing to do or the wrong thing? is it God's will or mine masquerading as His? it is then i feel His everlasting consolation and remember - "when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." isa 43:2 kjv

i've been to lots of places, i've seen a lot of faces,

there's been times i felt so all alone. but in my lonely hours, yes, those precious lonely hours, Jesus lets me know that i was His own

yes, the places we have frequented and the faces of those who were obviously walking in confusion and fear. did i think of them before myself? did i delay my plans to help another? in other words, did i stop for the one. it is not the multitude that matters to our Jesus. it is the one. it's always personal and intimate with Him. and yes, i also know those lonely hours but mine are treasures instead of trials. there, hidden in the secret place i hear His voice speaking, "be still, and know that I am God." psa 46:10 kjv and so...

i thank God for the mountains, and i thank Him for the valleys, i thank Him for the storms He brought me through. for if i'd never had a problem, i wouldn't know God could solve them, i'd never know what faith in God could do.

oh how easy it is and how we love to praise Him when we are high on the mountain tops, when everything is going right in our eyes. but what about when we are brought down low in hard times and difficult struggles; perhaps even through the valley of the shadow of death. can praise and thanks still escape our lips or only questions and complaints? can we still believe that God's got this and with it, me? can we then take the stance that nothing happens apart from His will, and in that state of mind confess - "we have no might against

this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." 2 chron 20:12 kjv

through it all, through it all, i've learned to trust in Jesus, i've learned to trust in God.

through it all, through it all, i've learned to depend upon His Word.

can we make the "good confession" that pleases our Lord? can faith triumph over fear? are we willing to lay down our life if need be and our will which must be, "saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." luke 22:42 kjv

and with that confession being whispered to God and shouted to the world, have this be our settled state of mind - "for the which cause i also suffer these things: nevertheless i am not ashamed: for i know whom i have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which i have committed unto him against that day." 2 tim 1:12 kjv