

During the Great Depression, a certain man lost his job, his fortune, his wife and his home. Despite it all, he held tenaciously to his faith – the only thing he had left.

One day, he stopped to watch some men building a stone church. One of them was chiseling a triangular piece of rock. "What are you going to do with that?" asked the man.

The workman said, "Do you see that little opening way up there near the spire? Well, I'm shaping this down here so that it will fit in up there."

Tears filled the eyes of the heartbroken man as he walked away. It seemed that God had spoken through the workman to explain the ordeal through which he was passing.

Perhaps you have recently suffered a great loss. Or maybe you are experiencing physical or emotional pain. The outward man seems to be perishing. And yet, if you know the Lord, you need not despair. What we call adversity, God calls opportunity.

All these trials or circumstances are under the hand of a loving Heavenly Father. The pressure of His hand may hurt, but remember: He is getting you in shape down here so you will fit in up there.

The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace (Psalm 29:11).

--Beecher Hunter