

“FOR GOD SENT NOT HIS SON INTO THE WORLD TO CONDEMN THE WORLD; BUT THAT THE WORLD THROUGH HIM MIGHT BE SAVED” (JOHN 3:17)

THE VALLEY EXPERIENCES

ROBERT PERSAUD

The valleys are geological formations which are made by running rivers and shifting glaciers. These are depressed areas of land scoured and washed out by the combination of forces of gravity, water and ice. Some hang while others are hollow, thus taking the form of a “U” or “V” in its shape.

Sometimes we experience severe discouragements in various shapes and forms. We find ourselves in a low state of depression due to physical and emotional illnesses, financial difficulties and a plethora of uncertainties. These challenging times can be considered the valley experiences in life’s journey.

The Lord will never leave His people in the valley alone. He has promised to be with us at all times, even in our valleys of struggles. “...Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20, KJV).

Our God Is Not Only The God Of the Mountains - He Is God Of The Valleys Too

“And the servants of the king of Syria said unto him, their

gods are gods of the hills; therefore, they were stronger than we; but let us fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they. And do this thing, Take the king’s away, every man out of his place, and put captains in their rooms: And number thee an army, like the army that thou hast lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot: and we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they. And he hearkened unto their voice, and did so. And it came to pass at the return of the year, that Benhadad numbered the Syrians, and went up to Aphek, to fight against Israel. And the children of Israel were numbered, and were all present, and went against them: and the children of Israel pitched before them like two little flocks of kids; but the Syrians filled the country. And there came a man of God, and spake unto the king of Israel, and said, Thus saith the Lord, Because the Syrians have said, The Lord is God of the hills, but he is not God of the valleys, therefore will I deliver all this great multitude into thine hand, and ye shall know that I am the Lord” (1 Kings 20:23-28, KJV).

Valley Experiences Are Not Meant To Be Permanent But Places Of Transition To Prove The Lord

Our objective as God's people is to focus on Him and not on the surrounding circumstances. The moment Peter took his eyes off the Master, he began to sink, and this is an important lesson in life for us. God allows the trials of life to strengthen our faith and build our confidence in Him. Our walk of obedience will develop, and our spiritual growth will be enhanced.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28, KJV).

The Valley Is A Place Where The Will Of God Takes Us And Where The Grace Of God Will Sustain Us

Our Lord participated in the last supper in Jerusalem with his disciples. After this momentous event, He proceeded to the Garden of Gethsemane with His followers, via the Kidron Valley. He was exceedingly sorrowful knowing that the time of his valley experience was imminent. The prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane was the evidence of the anguish he was going through. His sweat were as drops of blood.

"...Abba, father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless, not what I will, but what thou wilt" (Mark 14:36, KJV).

Valleys Do Not Cause The Stream - It Is The Stream That Cause The Valleys

Baca was actually a valley near Jerusalem, but its name means the place of weeping. Tears are an expression of a language that is resident deep within our innermost beings. The Lord will not turn away anyone who has a broken and contrite heart, a willing spirit and a ready mind to spiritual growth. It is the valleys that flow into the rivers of our divine expedition.

"How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them. Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah. Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee" (Psalm 84, KJV).

We Do Not Have Mountains Without Valleys And Plains. God Allows Us To Go Through The Valley - Whether It Be A Simple Ravine Or Canyon

The Psalmist David was also crossing the Kidron valley and running from his son Absalom. He painted a wonderful picture of the shepherd's psalm – no want, green pastures, still waters and the paths of righteousness (Psalm 23). However, he expressed such confidence in the shepherd's care. The rod and the staff, along with the almighty presence of the Shepherd offered that comfort and faith (lack of fear) to David.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4).

God's Restoration Takes Place Within The Valleys Of Dry Bones

Ezekiel was very submissive to the knowledge of the holy One. His experience was a transformative one that rings through with the voice of prophecy (see Ezekiel chapter 37). Dead bones in the valley can no longer stand in the way of what the Spirit of God is accomplishing today.

We learn the most about God within the valley of experiences

When we can look up steadfastly on the Lord from the valley, we will see the mountains of his glory and be encouraged.

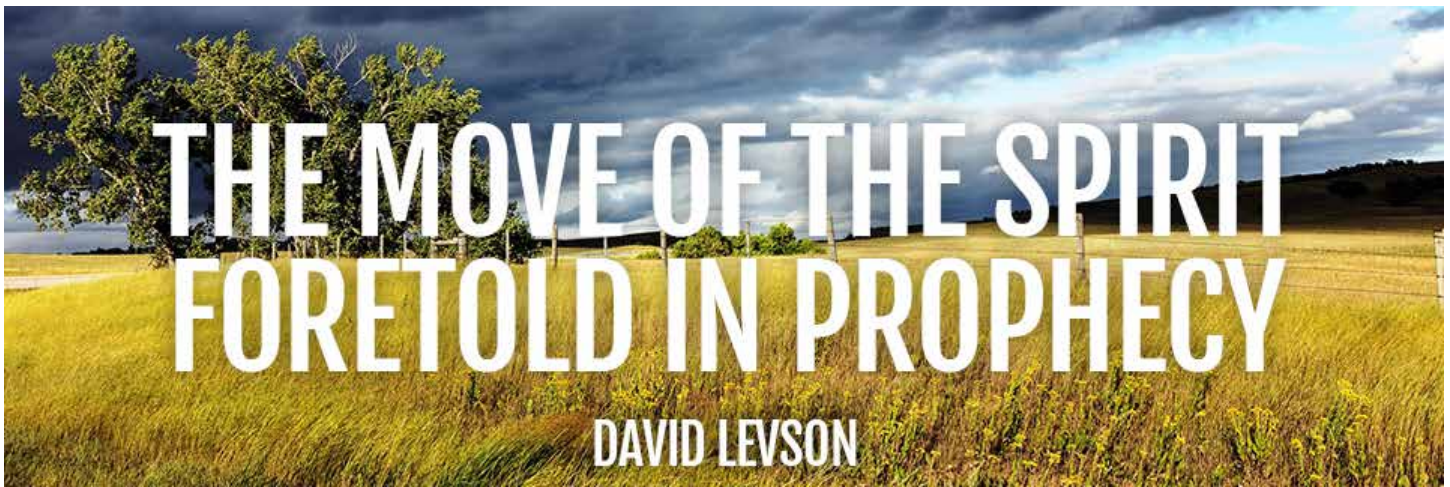
"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2, KJV).

The spiritual growth that takes place within the valleys of our experience, coupled with the weight of glory prepared for us are incomparable to the forbearance of our trials. The paradigm was shifted overnight in Jacob's valley of struggle to the recognition to that of the Almighty presence of Jehovah.

"And Jacob awakened out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not" (Genesis 28:16, KJV).

Our valleys are permitted by the Lord. The lessons of life are given to us in different ways. Joseph attended the "Pit to the Prison" university in Egypt in my words. He never dithered in his tenure; he graduated to the palace and was given the highest honor in the kingdom of Pharaoh. Joseph was an excellent example for our youths and budding executives. We should not allow ourselves to be sidetracked, irrespective of how we are being treated by the people around us. Joseph's heart was set in the right place, and he yielded to the Lord. He outlined his purpose to his brothers, and revealed a glimpse of his vision and destiny.

"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive" (Genesis 50:20, KJV). †



It is my sincere desire and prayer that the reader of this article will be able to understand the great treasures to the church that God gave as He moved by the Holy Spirit in 1948 at North Battleford. He was moving, He is moving, and He will always move by His Spirit.

However, to get an understanding of the confirmation that God would make about the 1948 move of the Spirit, He inspired prophecies to foretell of its coming. God often confirms His will through prophecy that foretells His plans and purposes in the earth. For example, God sent angels to tell of the birth of Jesus. He sent John the Baptist, to foretell about the ministry of Jesus (Luke 1:26-38, 2:8-38, 3:1-18).

Now, I would like to relate the background and the prophecy that God gave our mom, Thelma Levson, telling of the 1948 moving of the Holy Spirit in North Battleford two years before it even began! Thelma was driving down the road one day, and she hit a boy that ran out in front of her car. Immediately, she told the Lord that if the boy lived, she would give her heart to Him. It turned out that the boy did live but she forgot to keep her commitment. However, God did not forget and a short while later, she was invited by a coworker to attend a series of evangelistic meetings, which she did and it was there where she gave her heart to the Lord.

Our dad Arthur was raised by Orthodox Jewish parents. He gave his heart to the Lord when, from what we understand from him telling us the story, Jesus audibly said to Him as he was walking down the street, "I am Jesus. Believe in me." Dad had been traveling selling magazines door-to-door trying to make some money during the depression to avoid literally going hungry. Following Christ's revelation of Himself to our dad and while he was all alone in a hotel room, he knelt down and accepted Christ. Afterwards, some of his family essentially rejected him from the family. After his conversion, dad attended Prairie Bible School for three years. He received the baptism of the Holy Spirit that summer and decided to attend a Pentecostal Bible college in Winnipeg for his fourth year. It was at this Bible college that he met our mom, and they were married.

Following their marriage, mom and dad along with Emil and Mary Wolf decided to travel around Western Canada from Winnipeg to Vancouver giving the New Testament (in which quotations from Old Testament scriptures of Messianic prophecies were in bold, black print) to the Jewish people. Each person was asked if they would like to accept it and if they would promise to read it. This was part of the Million Testament Campaign to the Jewish people. Many different churches opened their doors and contributed to some of their needs.

In the summer of 1946, they arrived in North Battleford with \$5.00 for two rooms but no money for food. They entered a forced fast and much prayer. Mom felt a great weakness. This played a significant role in the upcoming prophecy. The following is mom's account of the prophecy.

"Brother Holt was to go on holidays, and graciously asked Emil Wolf and my husband, Arthur Levson, to take the Sunday night service at the Foursquare Church. During the service, Brother Wolf started to speak but could not go on. He testified afterwards, that God stopped his tongue. He asked me if I had anything to give as he had heard me prophesy before.

The Spirit of God came upon me in the form of rain, gently, then in a downpour. I could hardly stand through weakness as I started to prophesy. This type of anointing had never happened to me before nor has it happened since, although I hear the rain many times in various ways in the services. The prophecy went as follows:

"Behold, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy and on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out my Spirit and they shall prophesy. Behold, I will do a new thing in the earth and it shall spring forth speedily. There shall be such a mighty revival that the world has never seen, an outpouring of my Spirit, even the early and latter rain and it shall begin right here and it will never end!"

There was much more to the prophecy, which I cannot recall. The prophecy had come with great unction. I was amazed to hear that the spiritual rains would start in North Battleford, a town in the middle of nowhere. The prophecy emphasized the outpouring would be on “servants and handmaidens.” Also, the great outpouring or revival would have a beginning, but no ending.

We returned to Winnipeg, but I never forgot the prophecy. When we heard about the revival in North Battleford, I knew this must be the fulfillment of the prophecy, and so we travelled to North Battleford to become a part of what God was doing.

My whole aim in life is to promote God’s kingdom. I thank God for the healing power of the Lord through the anointing with oil by the elders and deacons. I have escaped a few operations through God’s love and faithfulness.”

This move of the Spirit continues to this day with power, authority, and anointing of the Holy Spirit. It has spread to many countries of the world. We gathered at the Feast of Pentecost at North Battleford March 29 to April 1, 2018 with the Holy Spirit moving in a wonderful way. The Holy Spirit has been moving us forward and schooling us in the ways of the Lord since 1948. I was born in 1948 and our parents took us four boys to all camp meetings and local church meetings. I can attest to the moving of the Holy Spirit in our midst from the time I remember, which was when I was five years old.

As was stated earlier, it was revealed in 1948 that God would restore the nine gifts of the Spirit to the church by prophecy and the laying on of hands of the presbytery, that there would be a coming together of the body of Christ. That God would restore the truths to the church lost in the dark ages, and that there would be a quickening of truths that had already been restored. There was an emphasis that the kingdom of God was at hand (Matthew 24:14) and that we were to mature into sonship (Romans 8:14, 1 John 3:1-3). There was also an emphasis on unity as Jesus prayed that we would all be one (John 17:21).

God has restored the five-fold ministry (Ephesians 4:11), and the nine gifts of the spirit (1 Corinthians 12:8-11). The fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-25) is becoming evident in the lives of believers by the Spirit, which is transforming us. God is establishing His kingdom order in His church (traveling ministries, elders and deacons, order in each home) right now. He is a God of order. He has established the anointed and authoritative word of prophecy in meetings (1 Corinthians 14:3). In all things we need to be led by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and God’s Word, the Bible. †

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