

REFLECTIONS

February 27, 2022

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

God at Work

Sometime things don't go well. Relationships become strained, or money runs tight, or health issues present troublesome challenges. Whatever it is, life sometimes gets us down, and the only thing that we seem to do very well is feel sorry for ourselves.

When we've reached that state of mind maybe it signals the time to walk out the door of the pity party we are attending, look at the world outside, and wonder what God might be doing in our lives. Haven't we been through troubled times before? Haven't those experiences changed us at least a little from what we were before? Might God be preparing us for something new or better in our lives?

Jesus warned us there would be difficult times. And he told us about God pruning unfruitful branches: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. (See John 15:1-3) Maybe now is a good time to pay attention to God at work in our lives instead of laboring over the pain from our troubles.

"Forget the former things; / do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! / Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? (Isaiah 43:18-19)

"You are the light of the world,"

Richard+

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