

Messenger of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16)

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## **Problems**

"Every man born of woman has problems." – Elizabeth Kata, *A Patch of Blue*

"Problems are to the mind what exercise is to the muscles, they toughen and make strong." – Norman Vincent Peale

"Avoid problems, and you'll never be the one who overcame them." – Richard Bach

"You will only be remembered for two things: the problems you solve or the ones you create." – Mike Murdock

"Let God's promises shine on your problems." – Corrie Ten Boom

Among the things we share, beyond death and taxes, certainly has to be problems. Some people are more than happy to share their problems, while others try to deny them.

After heeding much needed advice, Moses had an interesting question for the children of Israel. "How can I alone bear your problems and your burdens and your complaints?" (Deut. 1:12). Moses was exhausting himself trying to handle all of the problems of the Israelites. When you consider the problems in your own life, can you imagine trying to deal with the problems of thousands?

Now if we are honest, many of the problems we face in life we bring upon ourselves. It is quite common to hear folks blame others for all of their grief and difficulties. Somehow that seems to make us feel better if we can put the blame elsewhere.

Knowing that all of us face problems, the question comes down to how are we going to handle them? Perhaps the apostle Peter gives us the best indication when he writes, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1 Pet. 5:7). Divine help and guidance would seem to be the wisest course of action. And for that, it means that one needs to pray.

"What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer." (Words by Joseph M. Scriven, 1820-1886)

Isn't it strange that we can sing that song without realizing the message that it contains? The author speaks of the "peace we often forfeit." There is certainly truth in those words.

Third verse: "Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there."