

Better Not Bitter 3

(Part 3 of correspondence with my friend "George")

Hi George,

Your struggles remind me of times recently when Win and I have experienced difficult situations. Anger, disappointment, trying to "fix" things -- I've been there!

But God's way is perfect, as Win keeps reminding me. At gut level instead of just head, cognitive level, I am seeing that God is at work in all things, including evil situations, to bring about good for those who love him.

Fire removes impurities from precious metals, and God uses difficulties to purify His children. This process is, I feel, the heart of "spiritual transformation." It involves becoming willing to allow God to work *His* way in my situation. Learning to be content to say, "Your way, not mine." Not trying to manipulate God to get my way. (Note: Manipulation can come in many forms, even in "good" things like prayer, making "promises" to God, etc.)

Spiritual transformation occurs each time I say to my Heavenly Father, as Jesus did, "I don't want this suffering. But Your will, not mine, be done."



Coffee/tea thought: May that wonderful truth sink deep into my heart -- "As for God, his way is perfect." (*Psalms 18:30*)

John

更好而非更苦3

(与“乔治”的第三段通信)

乔治，

你的遭遇让我想起Win和我最近遇到难处时的情形。愤怒，失望，控制欲——我也有过。

但神的路是完全的，像Win常提醒我的一样。我从里面，而不是从头脑上，发现神叫万事，包括坏事，互相效力，叫爱神的人得益处。

火能炼去金属里的渣子，神也用难处来炼净他的儿女。这个过程，我觉得就是属灵的模式过程。需要愿意让神照他的方法在我处的环境中作功。学习有满足地说，“照你的方法，不照我的”。不要试图操控神来照我的方法做事。（注意：操控可以有很多种形式，甚至是“好”的，比如祷告，向神许愿等。）

每次我像耶稣一样对天父说“我不愿受这苦。但要照你的方法，不照我的”时，我就被模得更像他。

随想：愿这奇妙的真理深入我心——“至于神，他的道是完全的。”（诗篇18:30）

史建恩