

THE GOSPEL MAGAZINE

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Editorial

SOONER OR LATER the day of trouble comes to every life. When it comes we can react in different ways. We can let it overwhelm us and be filled with self pity or we can rebel and become bitter. On the other hand we can accept it, trusting that God will make clear tomorrow what is hard to understand today.

It has been rightly said that it takes trouble to understand trouble; it takes sorrow to sympathise with sorrow — deep calling unto deep, to use the Psalmist's phrase.

What a mercy that we may pray in the day of trouble! What an encouragement to read in Psalm 20, "The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble . . .". No trouble can prevent the Lord from hearing us. Though troubles roar like thunder the believer's voice will be heard above the storm. The verse continues, "the name of the God of Jacob defend thee". Jacob had his day of trouble, his life was somewhat chequered, but he wrestled and was heard.

It is not only promised that the Lord will be with us in trouble, but that He will help us, sending "help from the sanctuary". In every situation of need in which we find ourselves, the Lord is willing and ready to be our helper. At the throne of grace we find grace to help in time of need. Another scripture assures us that, "the Lord is my helper, I will not fear what man shall do unto me".

Our needs are different from those of other people, but His help and grace are always appropriate. God is sovereign, He is in control when trouble comes and God's grace is close at hand. In all things that may happen we can be assured that nothing can separate us from the love of God.