



## Devotional Thoughts :: In the Furnace

**In the Furnace - posted by pastorfrin, on: 2008/3/3 5:00**

“I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.”  
— Isaiah 48:10

Comfort thyself, tried believer, with this thought: God saith, “I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.” Does not the word come like a soft shower, assuaging the fury of the flame? Yea, is it not an asbestos armour, against which the heat hath no power? Let affliction come—God has chosen me. Poverty, thou mayst stride in at my door, but God is in the house already, and he has chosen me. Sickness, thou mayst intrude, but I have a balsam ready—God has chosen me. Whatever befalls me in this vale of tears, I know that he has “chosen” me. If, believer, thou requirest still greater comfort, remember that you have the Son of Man with you in the furnace. In that silent chamber of yours, there sitteth by your side One whom thou hast not seen, but whom thou lovest; and oftentimes when thou knowest it not, he makes all thy bed in thy affliction, and smooths thy pillow for thee. Thou art in poverty; but in that lovely house of thine the Lord of life and glory is a frequent visitor. He loves to come into these desolate places, that he may visit thee. Thy friend sticks closely to thee. Thou canst not see him, but thou mayst feel the pressure of his hands. Dost thou not hear his voice? Even in the valley of the shadow of death he says, “Fear not, I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God.” Remember that noble speech of Caesar: “Fear not, thou carriest Caesar and all his fortune.” Fear not, Christian; Jesus is with thee. In all thy fiery trials, his presence is both thy comfort and safety. He will never leave one whom he has chosen for his own. “Fear not, for I am with thee,” is his sure word of promise to his chosen ones in the “furnace of affliction.” Wilt thou not, then, take fast hold of Christ, and say—

“Through floods and flames, if Jesus lead,  
I’ll follow where he goes.”

Spurgeon, C. H.

**Re: In the Furnace - posted by JennRich (), on: 2008/3/3 9:15**

thank you!

**Re: In the Furnace - posted by Ruach34 (), on: 2008/3/3 13:41**

Thank you, PastorFrin.

I have been comforted also by the words written by Wurmbrand, who speaks much of Christ being seen in the tortured believer, the dirt and bloodied believer who smiles at his/her torturer.

Scripture comes alive and is pertinent in light of suffering and persecution. In the face of trial and tribulation we find true and perfect solace in the Word of God. It is a little harder to apply this balm of the Word in peaceful and easy times.

So, we need the furnace, to test what we are made of, to put to test the words of men. Although they say, "It is well with my soul," we may find it is not actually well in the presence of suffering.

Thank you for sharing...

...and may the Lord be seen in you as you pass through fiery ordeals.