

**Devotional Thoughts :: "He bruises His Spices", "Fetch out the dirt and spots" by Thomas Brooks**

**"He bruises His Spices", "Fetch out the dirt and spots" by Thomas Brooks, on: 2016/12/17 10:54**

"He bruises His spices"

Thomas Brooks

"God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness." Hebrews 12:10

Grace always thrives most when saints are under the rod.

When Christians are under the rod, then their graces do not only bud, but blossom and bring forth fruit, as Aaron's rod did. The snuffing of the candle makes it burn the brighter. God beats and bruises His children, to make them burn the brighter; He bruises His spices, to make them send forth the greater aromatic fragrance.

The Jews were always best when they were in an afflicted condition.

Stars shine brightest in the darkest nights.

Vines grow the better for bleeding.

Gold shines the better for scourging.

Juniper smells sweetest when in the fire.

By afflictions, God many times revives, quickens, and recovers the decayed graces of His people. By afflictions, God many times inflames that love which is cold; and He strengthens that faith which is failing; and he puts life into those hopes which are languishing; and new spirits into those joys and comforts which are withering and dying. Sharp afflictions recover and revive our decayed graces.

The smarting rod abases the loveliness of the world, which entices us; it abates the lustiness of the flesh within, which incites us to vanity and folly.

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"Fetch out the dirt and spots"

Thomas Brooks

"I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities." Isaiah 1:25

By severe providences and by fiery trials, God designs the growth of His people in grace. Usually the graces of the saints thrive best —when they are under a smarting rod. Grace usually is in the greatest flourish— when the saints are under the greatest trials. The trimming of the candle— makes it burn the brighter. God bruises His

spices— to make them send forth the sweeter fragrance. Fiery trials are like the brush, which, though it is sharp and scratching—it makes the cloth more pure and clean. God would not rub so hard, were it not to fetch out the dirt and spots which are in His people.

Stars shine brightest in the darkest nights; and so do the graces of the saints shine brightest in the darkest nights of affliction and tribulation. God will sometimes more carry on the growth of grace by a cross than by a mercy. Yes, the Lord will, sooner or later, more or less— turn all fiery trials into blessings for the helping on the growth of grace in His people's souls. Though fiery trials are grievous— yet they shall make us more gracious. Though for the present they appear to harm and damage us; yet in the outcome we shall find that God will turn them into the spiritual and eternal advantage of our precious souls.

Thrice happy will afflicted Christians be, if under all their crosses and losses they grow into a more deep acquaintance with God and His holiness; with the vanity, mutability, impotency, and uncertainty of the world; and with the deceitfulness, vileness, baseness, and wretchedness of their own hearts!

If under fiery dispensations, we grow . . .  
more holy than ever,  
more humble than ever,  
more heavenly than ever,  
more meek and lowly than ever,  
more tender and compassionate than ever,  
more faithful and fruitful than ever,  
more patient and contented than ever,  
then we may be confident that the grand design of God in bringing all those fiery trials upon us, was for His glory, and our own spiritual and eternal good.

"God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness." Hebrews 12:10

**Re: "He bruises His Spices", "Fetch out the dirt and spots" by Th - posted by savannah, on: 2016/12/17 18:09**

It's evident that Mr Brooks was well acquainted with His Lord.

And only one who had experienced such suffering could write such words.

When all forsake you, when all hell breaks loose upon you, read Mr Brooks. Otherwise, you will only be trying to read a language you have not learned.

When God teaches you the language, you'll eat these words and they'll satisfy your soul. But, until then, have your cake and eat it too, while your sweet tooth is still sensitive.

Mr Brooks is like Mr Watson (Thomas), he retrieved his words from the heavenly portals.

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I've been abundantly blessed by Mr Brooks works. Two in particular which come to mind are, The Mute Christian Under the Smarting Rod, and also Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices.

Thanks for posting this!