

*And I said, This [is] my infirmity: [but I will remember] the years of the right hand of the most High. (Psalms 77:10)* (The words "but I will remember" are supplied by the translators and are not in the original text.)

We will have begun to come out of our season of perplexity, confusion, darkness and great defeat when we accept that which God has ordained for us . . . our "infirmity," or limitations. We all have them. Dreams, aspirations, desires, ambitions and expectations may not all be fulfilled. Many of them will be utterly frustrated. We see others whom we may judge less deserving and less capable than ourselves fully realizing what is utterly denied us, and we chafe at our chain. We may cry to God, seek the Lord, weep and groan, but as long as we are complaining and whining, our spirits will continue to be overwhelmed. Even thoughts of God will trouble us. We will have such treacherous thoughts in our meditation as to think perhaps God has utterly cast us off, that He will no more be favorable, has forgotten to be gracious, His mercies have ceased.

But when we come to realize that this infirmity is ours, we have begun to face reality, the only reality in which we may live. This is *ours*, not to be thrown upon others, not circumstances, bad luck, bad decisions on our part (we have plenty of those, but God is certainly greater than they). This is ours by the express good purpose and providence of God . . . the years of His Right Hand of Salvation. We could not have chosen a better limitation on our life in this wretched vale of tears and sorrow. We, of course, would have put no check on our desires, and they would have dragged us down to destruction.

Nor will we be able to figure out exactly why this infirmity is God's salvation for us. *His way is in the sanctuary (vs. 13)*. It is enough for us to adore and worship Him in it. *His way is in the sea (vs. 19)*. He leaves no tracks for men to set up highways and declare they have mapped out the unsearchable mind and purpose of God. It is enough for the righteous to know that He leads His people. They need no road map as long as they know their hands are in His.

-C.M.