

He was utterly grief stricken. Oh why should this happen to me! He was left with his little girl to take care of, and he said my wife is gone! He was utterly grief stricken. He could not understand how when he was doing his best to serve the Lord the Lord should allow this to come into his life.

Just a few months later that terrible epidemic--the worst we have had in this century in this country-- it took at least a third, maybe half the people were taken ill. Doctors and nurses rarely die in epidemics. In that one many of them died. In his congregation person after person lost loved ones. He having gone through that experience was able just by a word, just by a touch of the hand to bring comfort and solace to these whom he could not possibly have brought, but they realized what he had gone through. God had prepared him for it.

So you do not know in the experiences that come to you in life what God purpose in it is for you. God has plans for you to serve him, to serve Him effectively, and everything that comes into your life has a purpose in preparing you to do it effectively.

Why does God keep us here in this life? If we believe in Him what doesn't he take us to heaven right away? God has a purpose for us to serve Him. He also has a purpose for our development. He wants us to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord. He is preparing us for heaven, and anything that God sends into your life may have a vital purpose in preparation for the work and development of your life.

So we have death to look forward to. Everyone of us. It may come soon; it may not come for a long time. But we should make every moment count for Christ while we are here. Everyone of us is going to go through the misery of losing loved ones. We are going to have like a wound that takes time to heal. But it helps though it doesn't cure it to know that the loved one is with Christ in heaven. And everyone of us should be a pastor for God in helping other Christians, helping them to grow in grace and knowledge of the Lord. And everything that God sends into your life is there for a specific purpose, to prepare you for your work, and to prepare you to develop into the sort of person He wants you to be to live with Him through all eternity.

Let us Pray: O God our Father. This thing of death seems like a terrible thing. We don't know what is ahead. We don't know what your plan is. But Oh our God it is an enemy that Jesus Christ has destroyed by his death on calvary's cross. We need not fear it. We can like Paul rejoice that the day is coming when we will go to be with our Saviour. O our God we have sorrow when our loved ones go. Help us to pass thro the valley of the shadow of death knowing that you are with us, and that your rod and your staff comfort us. Help us each one to be a comfort to others, and help others when they have this to pass through. We ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.