

When In Sickness, Sorrow, Or Sin

In life we face many challenges and trials. We experience physical illnesses and ailments (Matt. 8:14). We suffer the loss of friends and family, both physically and spiritually (Jn. 11:32-35; 2 Tim. 4:10). We rebel against God and/or stumble into transgressions (Rom. 3:23; 1 Jn. 1:10).

When in sickness, sorrow, or sin, we need help. We need the comfort and strength of loved ones, family, friends, and brethren. Our fellow Christians, family or non-family, can pray for us, give exhortation, and advice (3 Jn. 2; Acts 8:24). They can comfort us in our tribulations and trials (2 Cor. 1:3-7). Hopefully, we will have the good sense to recognize our need of them and lean upon them during these times.

Further, when in sickness, sorrow, or sin, we especially need the help of the Father and Son. We can pray for physical health or the strength to bear up under the burden (cf. 2 Cor. 12:7-10). We can pray and search the Word of God for aid in times of sorrow and sin. God hears the prayers His children and is ready and willing to help them. We can pray for help to endure the loss of a spouse, parent, or child. We can pray for forgiveness during times of transgression (1 Jn. 1:8-9). Too, the Holy Spirit has revealed many occasions when the children of God were afflicted with illness, brought low because of the death of loved ones, or grieving because of their transgressions (Job 2:7-8; Gen. 23:2; Psa. 51:1-4). God has recorded their troubles and triumphs for our benefit--let us take advantage of it (cf. Rom. 15:4).

When in sickness, sorrow, or sin, turn to the Lord and His servants. You will find compassion and kindness, as well as strength and stamina to endure and overcome.

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