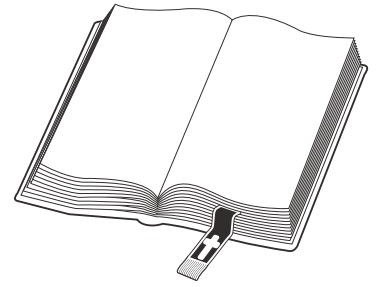


My Afflictions Glorify Jesus

“I am afflicted very much; revive me, O Lord, according to Your word.”

Psalm 119:107



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Since I became a believer in 1976 I have constantly seen Jesus be glorified through the many afflictions that have been in my life. Let me list some of the afflictions that were in my life when I became a believer: 1) I was illegitimate; 2) I never knew my father; 3) I lived through the terror of the Second World War, bombed night and day, seeing the horror of dead, wounded, and destroyed lives; 4) My mother tried to abort me three times; 5) For 16 years she constantly told me that I was a mistake, that I should never have been born, and that she did not love me; 6) Sixteen years I lived in an alcoholic home where I was constantly beaten and sexually abused; 7) Daily lived in fear, rejection, loneliness, and hopelessness; 8) Often hungry and constantly wishing that I could die; 9) I never heard a word of love or encouragement; 10) I was constantly mocked and told that I was dumb and that I would never amount to -anything; 11) I had a lot of physical illnesses; 12) A teenage marriage that ended in divorce; 13) The affliction on my spirit, soul, and body from years of anger, bitterness, and sorrow; 14) The affliction of all the guilt I carried as a result of all my sin, including an abortion I had in 1965; 15) A second marriage on the brink of divorce.

Beloved, these are a few of the afflictions that were in my life when I accepted Christ as my Savior, and there have been many afflictions in my life since I became a believer. I can tell you that God’s Word is true. Through daily reading the Bible, I saw God’s love, mercy, and AMAZING GRACE toward me. The Lord has revived my life

as I have obeyed His Word. The Holy Spirit empowered me to forgive all those who had sinned against me as Christ forgave me. He gave me the grace to repent of all my sins. Jesus cleansed me, healed my broken heart, and filled it with His peace and joy. I returned to Scotland and forgave my mother and had the joy of praying with her as she repented and accepted Christ as her Savior. Obedience to the Bible restored my marriage. I love and respect my husband more every day now.

Jesus has taken all of my past and present afflictions and has constantly opened doors throughout the United States and internationally for me to tell others of His incredible love for them. Jesus gave me hope, peace, joy, love, grace, mercy, and a reason and purpose to live. He can do the same for you if you will allow Him.

Beloved, your situation may seem overwhelming and hopeless, but please do not give up. Do not try to escape your pain the world’s way. Run to Jesus and run to His Word—true and lasting hope is there! Unbeliever, Jesus loves you. He died for you. He wants to help you. Ask Him to forgive your sins and take control of your life. He will not fail you. He suffered many afflictions for you, and He and only He can help you in and through the afflictions that you suffer every day.

— *Janice McBride*

All scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

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