



Pointes to Ponder

How's Your Lemonade?

Hebrews 11:1, “Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Charles Haddon Spurgeon said that love letters from the Heavenly Father are often mailed in black edged envelopes. When Madame Guyon was imprisoned in the Castle of Vincennes, she wrote, “It sometimes seems to be as if I were a little bird which the Lord had placed in a cage and that I had nothing to do now but to sing. The joy of my heart is full. The stones in my prison look like rubies.” The Apostle Paul wrote, “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” (Romans 8:18).

Paul saw the whole circumference of God's purposes. What about us? Think of our life spans as if they were plotted around circles. Now how much of those circles are covered by this pandemic of 2020? We must be careful not to allow some small arc of setback to captivate our thinking or we will lose sight of the circle. The greatest wisdom is to look at our lives from the standpoint of eternity.

Nothing steadies us more in a crisis like hope. Surgeons say that hope is half the battle. Pain is not nearly as unbearable if there is hope of getting well. Biblical Christianity is a magnificent manifesto of hope. Sorrow cannot conquer us when our eyes are on eternity.

“What do you know about death?” one might ask, “You have never died.”

The reply to that comes in the form of Hebrews 11:1, “Now faith is the assurance of *things* hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Faith knows. Faith believes the promises of God's Word. Heaven will reveal the wisdom of our woes and the purposes of our pain. In the meantime, let us trust the Heavenly Father's love and wisdom.

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. So, squeeze the juice out of each day. It really is the sourest lemon that makes the best lemonade!