



A light to my path. Psalm 119:105

## **The Blessing of Adversity!**

Adversity is a condition marked by misfortune, calamity, or distress.<sup>1</sup> Moses was born under the adversity of the Pharaoh, but God used him to deliver the Hebrews from slavery. David, anointed by God to replace King Saul, live in constant adversity from the king. God used David to defeat Goliath and unite the tribes of Israel. These men knew adversity as *ra* meaning bad, unpleasant, giving pain, unhappiness, and misery.<sup>2</sup> Paul, as a Pharisee, caused adversity by imprisoning and killing Christians until he met Jesus. Then he became a preacher of Jesus' teaching. Peter experienced adversity from the Pharisees coming against Jesus. In fear for his life, he denied Jesus, who restored him and made him an apostle. These two men knew adversity as *tsarah*, meaning distress and affliction.<sup>3</sup>

Beloved, no one is exempt from adversity. As believers in Jesus, adversity strengthens our faith in God. Adversity becomes a gift as blessings of comfort come from God and we comfort others (2 Corinthians 4:10 NKJV). In adversity, God removes from us whatever is blocking the image of Christ (Romans 8:29). We handle adversity by reading Matthew 11:29 and Philippians 4:6. God is our source of faith in a time of adversity. Draw from him and he will replace your weakness with his strength. Your next bout with adversity will find you stronger in faith. Shalom!!

Footnotes: 1 Collins Dictionary, 2 Bible Study Tools 3 Ibid

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