

“LIFE ISN’T FAIR”

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

Philip Yancey writes about a friend named Douglas who experienced deep disappointment. Douglas’s wife contracted breast cancer. While in the middle of this crisis, a drunk driver swerved across the center line and smashed head-on into Douglas’s car, and Douglas received a severe blow to the head. His vision was affected, and his ability to read was hindered. He could hardly walk down a flight of stairs without assistance. The damage was irreparable. Philip interviewed Douglas to ask if he felt disappointment with God. Douglas was silent for what seemed like a long time. He stroked his peppery grey beard and gazed off beyond my right shoulder.....Finally he said, “To tell you the truth, Philip, I didn’t feel any disappointment with God.....The reason is this; I learned, first through my wife’s illness and then especially through the incident, not to confuse God with life....I have learned to see beyond the physical reality of this world to the spiritual reality. We tend to think, ‘Life should be fair because God is fair.’ But God is not life. And if I confuse God with the physical reality of life, by expecting constant health, for example, then I set myself up for a crashing disappointment. God’s existence, even his love for me, does not depend on my good health. Frankly, I’ve had more time and opportunity to work on my relationship with God during my impairment than before.”

Douglas learned to successfully navigate disappointment when you don’t get what you want; to believe without seeing, to walk by faith and not by sight. Douglas knew that God is loving and powerful, even though his circumstances didn’t support this truth.

Some people think that trusting God as Douglas did, to believe without seeing, is foolish. No it isn’t. It’s called faith.

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1

It doesn’t take faith to believe God, when you have the evidence of what you believe. Faith is believing without seeing. Believing without receiving. Believing in God and His goodness and power even when you haven’t received the things you hope for.

Life isn’t fair. But God is! Don’t allow life or the enemy of your soul to steal your faith and confidence in God.

God knows exactly where you are at and everything that you are going through. You are not going through those things alone. Your Heavenly Father walks beside you, and when you are too weak to walk, He will carry you.