

Things Work Out

Greetings, Patriots, and welcome to today's devotional thought: "Things Work Out."

You may remember in a recent podcast I told a story about the grandfather of a missionary to New Guinea. It is supposed to be a true story and one that inspires us. I wanted to share that story as a devotional thought today. He said:

It was back during the Great Depression, and my grandfather was a carpenter. But on this particular day he was at the railroad station, sealing up crates filled with clothes his church was shipping to an orphanage in China.

On his way home, he reached into his shirt pocket to get his glasses, but they were gone.

When he mentally retraced his steps, he realized what must have happened. His glasses had slipped out of his pocket and fallen into one of the crates while he was nailing it shut. And now his brand new glasses were heading for China!

The Great Depression was at its height and Grandpa had 6 children. He had spent \$20 for those glasses that very morning and was upset by the thought of having to buy another pair. "It's not fair," he told God as he drove home in frustration. "I've been very faithful in giving of my time and money to your work, and now this."

A year later, the director of the orphanage was on a furlough in the United States, visiting all the churches that supported his work in China, so he came to speak one Sunday at my grandfather's small church. The director began by thanking the people for their faithfulness in supporting the orphanage.

"But most of all," he said, "I must thank you for the glasses you sent last year. You see, the Communists had just swept through the orphanage, destroying everything, including my glasses. I was desperate.

"Even if I had the money, there was no way of replacing the glasses in my part of China. Along with not being able to see well, I had terrible headaches every day, so my coworkers and I were much in prayer about this.

"Then your crates arrived. When we removed the covers, we found a pair of glasses lying on top." The missionary paused long enough to let his words sink in. Then he continued, "Folks, when I tried on the glasses, it was as though they had been custom-made just for me! I don't know why you included those glasses, but I want to thank you for doing so from the bottom of my heart!"

The people listened, happy for the miraculous coincidence of the glasses. But they thought that surely he had confused their church with another. There weren't any glasses on the list of items they had shipped overseas.

Sitting quietly in the back, with tears streaming down his face, was an old man, my grandfather, just an ordinary carpenter, who suddenly realized that the Master Carpenter had used him in an extraordinary way.

God can use each one of us in extraordinary ways when He makes all things work together for good.

- It may be a simple word of encouragement you give, or a kind deed.
- It may be some kind of mini-disaster that changes someone's life for the better like losing an expensive pair of glasses.

Don't give up in spite of how dark things seem to be or how much chaos there appears to be – God is sovereign and in control and what is accidental or what is meant for evil will be turned for good. There is a "Great Awakening" coming that will come about because people decide to stop their pretenses and fully

get on board with God or, persecution will drive us there. Either way, God is going to work things out for good to those who love Him and find their purpose in His purposes.

Romans 8:28-29 (ESV)

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son..."

Today as you face issues and challenges, remember God can work out things for your good. So, I hope you have a great day and that you will. . .

Keep The Light Burning!

Dr. Perry Greene