



# BROAD STREET

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*From Where I Sit . . .*

### “Casting All Your Care Upon God”

**H**ave you ever felt so burdened with stresses in your life that you began to lose hope that anything could help your situation? While we think of the apostle Paul as a man of deep faith in God, and he was, he endured stresses in his life far beyond what the average person may experience. In spite of his deep faith, he spoke of his “despair of life itself.” We read of this despair in **2 Corinthians 1:8-10 (ESV)** <sup>8</sup> **“For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. <sup>10</sup> He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.”**

In this low state, Paul came to realize his need to totally rely “on God who raises the dead” and not rely on himself. His faith in God sustained him whether the burden was lifted or not. This man of God knew that this was not a one-time event, and he found a blessing that every child of God could count on! This made prayer an essential element of his life! Not only his prayer, but that of his brethren, **2 Corinthians 1:11 (ESV)** <sup>11</sup> **“You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.”**

How many of you have reached your “**stress limit**” lately? Often we have little ability to handle difficulties because of a weak faith. Sometimes our problems lie in the decisions we make. If we will put ourselves in the frame of mind toward the will of God to say “thy will be done,” our loads will be bearable. **1 Corinthians 10:13 (KJV)** <sup>13</sup> **“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”**

We must have confidence in the care of God. There are so many burdens lifted when we stop fighting God. Do we trust Him with our lives as David did? In the words of **Psalms 23:1-6 (KJV)** <sup>1</sup> **“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. <sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.”**

When we know God our fears will disappear. **1 John 4:18-19 (KJV)** <sup>18</sup> **“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love him, because he first loved us.”**

Are you building your faith or exhausting yourself over the cares of this life? **1 Peter 5:6-7 (KJV)** <sup>6</sup> **Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: <sup>7</sup> Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.**

. . . Terry Broome