

Luke 24:44

Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me."

Almost ten years ago, I lost my job that I had been at for over 18 years, and the results was that I had to take another temporary job, which was about 120 miles away. What I would do was drive early Monday morning to this job, then stay at my sister's house, sleeping on her sofa during the week, then drive back home (120 miles) after work on Friday (in L.A. traffic) and spend the weekend at my home.

Then about 6 months later I got another job and lived in hotels for over 6 years, living in other states as I worked. There were times when I was alone on my birthday and even during the holidays because of it.

Soon I was between jobs and lived with my mom for a few months (because I gave up my original home because I was traveling all the time) which was really tough, because I was in my 50's and never thought I would be living with my mom ever again. But it was nice to spend time with my mom (Who went home to be with Jesus last year) and was able to help her out financially and with the things she need done there at her home.

I then decided to move from the West Coast to the East Coast, but half way there, I stopped and spent time with my son and grandkids and ended up moving to TX, right in the middle of the USA. I got a new job within a month and been here in TX for almost 3 years now.

Even the things my wife went through to bring her to TX, including a car accident that still brings her pain to this day, all had to happen in order for her to move to TX, so that God could bring us together and use us in the church that we are in right now. During this these 3 years while I have been here in TX, I got married to an awesome godly woman, I got a great new car that I only dreamed I would ever have, and my three teenage kids moved in with us not long after we got married. My wife is now head of the woman's ministry at church, and I'm on the worship team and loving it.

So, why do I tell you these things? I think to say, that if I did not lose my job ten years ago, and if my wife had not gotten onto a car accident, everything else would not had fallen into place exactly as God wanted, or planned it to so that I could meet and marry my wife, have a home for our kids, be involved in the church, etc.

With that in mind, think of today's devotional verses and how Jesus is talking to the apostles after He rose from the dead and He was saying *that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.*

Notice I underlined the word "must", because usually, we never think of the things that "had" to happen that lead up to Jesus' death on the cross and even His resurrection. But if you read through the Old Testament, everything that happened to Jesus, "had to" happen to Jesus. None of

them were a coincidence or by accident, but they were all foretold hundreds and even a few thousand years before they happened.

Here is just one example of what Jesus went through on the cross as described in Psalm 22

† **Psalm 22:1 & 12-18** *My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me, And from the words of My groaning? Many bulls have surrounded Me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled Me. They gape at Me with their mouths, Like a raging and roaring lion. I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death. For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet; I can count all My bones. They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, And for My clothing they cast lots.*

As you read this and then read of what Jesus went through on the cross in the Gospels (New Testament), it seems that they were written at the same time, yet they were a few thousand years apart. But Jesus “HAD” to go through these things to fulfill prophecy. *that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.*

So once again, why am I telling you these things about Jesus, my wife and I and all the things we went through. Well, we all had to go through them to accomplish God’s good and perfect purpose for our lives, even though some were painful, and Jesus’ were extremely painful, beyond what we could imagine.

So for you right now, things may seem very difficult, hard and even downright painful, emotionally and even physically, and you may not understand why you are going through them. But, if you are walking with the Lord, then you should have a hope and comfort that it is just as one of our favorite scriptures says: *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28*

You may not understand why you are going through them right now, just like my wife and I did not understand why either. But as we kept our eyes on the Lord, it didn’t matter why; what mattered was that we knew the Lord was with us through it all, and it was according to His good and wonderful purpose. And it will be in your case as well, just stay focused on the Lord and walk with Him, and He will get you through this, even though you have no idea how you will right now. But simply know that it is *according to His purpose.*

† **Hebrews 13:5b-6** *For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*