spiritual realm as well. God’s providence is an inexhaustible source of spiritual strength for all believers. God’s scheme of redemption has worked in all ages to bless and redeem all who have sought to follow God’s ways.

**The Law of Cooperation—“All Things Work Together…”**

The wonders of space fascinate and humble believers (Ps. 8:3-4). God made natural laws to govern the universe in amazing beauty and harmony. The coordinated movements of the earth, moon, and sun regulate seasons, weather, and climate to produce conditions on earth that are favorable for human existence.

The Godhead is a combination of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. This Holy Trinity works together in many ways to provide both physical and spiritual blessings to mankind. For example, 1) God created the universe and man (Gen. 1:26). 2) God works to sustain His creation. (Heb. 1:1-3). 3) God works through human agency to save the world (Mk. 16:15-16).

**The Law of Compensation—“All Things Work Together For Good…”**

Though this law is difficult to understand and accept in the midst of trouble or tragedy, Paul gives believers hope for the bad times. 1) He says that even that which seems bad for us will ultimately work for our good. 2) Our adversaries may sometimes present opportunities to us that would not occur otherwise. 3) When God closes one door, He opens another. 4) Trials strengthen our spiritual lives and help prepare us for heaven.

**The Law of Limitation—All Things Work Together For Good To Them That Love God and Who Are The Called According To His Purpose.”**

Let us notice that this promise is not made to everybody. Remember, we are discussing the Special Providence of God for His people. We

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see then that 1) the promise is to them that love the Lord and 2) the promise is to them that are called according to His purpose. Further conditions of the promise include living for God, doing His will, converting others, etc. Other scriptures tell us that God’s providence covers the needs of all true believers (Jn. 14:1-6; Matt. 28:20).

The principles stated in Romans 8:28 are echoed in many other scriptures to encourage us in difficult times. Consider these examples:

Paul: “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us” (Rom. 8:18).

James: “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience” (Jas. 1:2-3).

David: “It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes” (Ps. 119:71).

Job: “Lo, all these things worketh God oftentimes with men, to bring back his soul from the pit, to be enlightened with the light of the living” (Job 33:29-30).

May these thoughts encourage us to remain faithful to our provident God, even in the hard times.

\*From a sermon by Andrew Connaly

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