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Bulletin

Ordinary Trials, Extraordinary Results

He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name" (Revelation 3:12).

DIFFICULTIES CAN BE THE SOURCE OF SOMETHING THAT IS TRULY MAGNIFICENT IF WE CHOOSE TO DEAL WITH THEM WISELY, THE DAILY ROUND OF "ORDINARY" DUTIES AND "COMMON" . The greatness of human character is often refined from seemingly unimportant and worthless materials. Before we despise any of our days or any of our decisions as inconsequential, let us think again. As God sees things, something of tremendously great consequence is in the making. It would be tragic to lose out on what is coming by failing to pay attention to its very "plain" preparation.

Just as God's standards of greatness are different from ours, the process through which He produces greatness is also different. Who but God would have thought to prepare Moses or David to lead the nation of Israel by sending them off for years to herd flocks of animals? And who but God would have seen that His own Son, the King of Kings, would be born in a stable and raised in one of the poorest homes in Galilee, far from the usual training grounds of leadership? It was in a simple carpenter's shop that Jesus "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:52). How is it that we think our own hardships have to make the evening news before they are significant?

