

***"No creature of His can escape God's sight, but everything is bare and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we have to give account."***  
(Hebrews 4:13 Williams)

## **The Interplay of Good and Evil**

by Ray Prinzing

*"And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil..."*  
Genesis 3:22)

In a generation such as this, with confusion on every hand, and pressure and tension increasing day by day, we find the prayer of the Psalmist finding a response, deep within our hearts, *"O send out Thy light and Thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto Thy holy hill, and to Thy tabernacles."* (Psalm 43:3). The subject before us is such that apart from the quickening of the Spirit, our understanding is indeed unfruitful, but with the Spirit guiding, we shall share those thoughts which have been of strength and help us.

In this short verse of scripture Chosen as our text we find some important clues as to the very outworking of our lives for today. It begins with the declaration of the Lord, "BEHOLD, THE MAN IS BECOME AS ONE OF US." We would especially note the word AS, for man did not become "ONE IN GOD" in the moment he partook of the forbidden thing, but he became AS-for man entered into a dimension where he would now have to weigh evil over against good. But it was a counter-position against a true god-hood, it was not true godship, for in all man's ponderings he would never arrive at the correct answers, for his facts would be clouded by his lack of knowledge, and prejudiced by his own lust and desire. Man was in a place where he thought himself to be god, but he was not the "free moral agent" which he supposed to be, though this delusion still exists in men today.

We are persuaded, however, that God is apprehending a people, processing them through severe discipline with a view to their actually becoming ONE IN HIMSELF. *"He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit."* (1 Corinthians 6:17) *"and I in Thee, that they also may be ONE IN US: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me."* (John 17:21). We are to be so joined to Him that we BECOME ONE IN GOD, identified as one IN Him, not just "as" Him, to become the firstfruits of the Himself creatures.

*"I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you children (or sons) of the Most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes."* (Psalm 82:6-7).

Man, in his fallen state, was not able to bear the load of divinity, but when God has finished His purging and discipline, removing all the SELF, carnal-mindedness, and restores us back into the pureness of His Spirit, then shall we be able to divide between the evil and the good, in perfect harmony with His will.

During present "bondage to vanity" man is under it all while GOD IS ABOVE IT ALL, and He is sovereignly working *"all things after the counsel of His own will"*, as we read in Ephesians 1:11. It is self-evident that the approach of man, who judges after the outward appearance, would be far different than that of God, Who now is able to discern the inner motivation. We have yet to *"learn to refuse the evil, and choose the good."* (Isaiah 7:15). With the mystery of iniquity already in our members, working all manner of overdesire, we find it requires a real work of transformation, via the inworking of the CROSS, to teach us to REFUSE THE EVIL, and then to CHOOSE THE GOOD. But, thanks be unto God, He not only has apprehended a people for this purpose, but He shall also bring it to a successful conclusion.

## Man Is Not A Free Moral Agent

The farther we go in this "training process" the more aware we are of the fact that we are not half so free as we once thought we were, for *"the creature was made subject to vanity, not willing, but by reason of Him who hath subjected the same in hope."* (Romans 8:20).

The very phrase "free moral agent" is not a Scriptural one, it is part of traditional teachings which are far from the truth, and often directly opposed to God. We shall take these words and examine them. An agent is one who acts or performs an act, and a "free" agent is one who can act as he pleases without any restraint of any kind placed upon him; while a free "moral" agent would be one who is free to act upon all moral issues, that is, upon all questions involving the qualities of right and wrong. Man does not fill this qualification.

*"Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee; the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain."* (Psalm 76:10).

If man is under restraint, obviously he is not free to act as he chooses. GOD does restrain and control, and HE uses man just as He pleases. Where then is man free in some respect? He is free as to his WILL free only to make his choice, but not always free to carry out a thing which he proposes. Yes, the actions of man most certainly are controlled, directed, and over-ruled by God. What God permits, He uses to His glory, and what He does not purpose to us, HE RESTRAINS. *"My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure."* (Isaiah 46:10).

*"For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He pondereth all his goings."* (Proverbs 19:21)

*"A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps."* (Proverbs 16:9).

*"There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand."* (Proverbs 19:21).

*"The lot is cast into the lap: BUT THE WHOLE DISPOSING THEREOF IS OF THE LORD."* (Proverbs 16:33).

There are many more scriptures which could be given to affirm that *"the way of man is not in himself"*, but we believe these will suffice for now. However, while it is true, man's actions are controlled by the Lord, yet it is also true that man is also free to yield his own mind to either the spirit of the world, or to the pure Spirit of God, for the gendering of his thoughts, And it is also true that we shall be judged, not for these outward actions, but for the INNER MOTIVATION. *"For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."* (Proverbs 23:7).

*"For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the Lord: - Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices."* (Proverbs 1:29,31). Man will be judged for his thoughts, to the inner choices made, but whether man can carry out his own plans will depend upon THE WILL OF GOD, whether God shall just use it, over-rule it for the good of His creation, or restrain it because there can be no use of it in HIS PURPOSE. Personally we count it a token of the mercy and grace of God that HE has kept His hand upon us many times, so that opportunity for action did not meet up with desire. There was less to reap when the seed was not sown, and the inner desire was easier to purge without the roots of indulgence.

How we need to *"set our affection (MIND) on the things above, not on the things on the earth."* (Colossians 3:2) for as our mind is girded up to the truth, yielded to the will of God, we shall find true peace and contentment.

## **Control is in God's hand**

God is GOD, and HE controls all the interaction of evil and good, and causes all things to redound to His own glory. It is not - what was lost by the fall was to be regained by redemption, BUT by the interaction of FALL AND REDEMPTION God achieves greater, wiser, nobler and high goals, than by the Adamic race remaining in it pristine state.

The "fall of man" was not an accident, nor the intruding of Satan into God's affairs. GOD PLANNED THE FULL WORKING OF FALL AND REDEMPTION, and the interaction of it is according to His purpose, while HE fulfills even now the counsel of His own will. If God did not know that the fall would happen, then He is not OMNIPOTENT, i.e. all-powerful. But KNOWING it would happen, and HAVING THE POWER to exercise His control over all, we find HIS PLAN is being executed perfectly, and ultimately it shall be revealed in the fulness of glory and praise. At all times, regardless of the appearance, God rules.

Heaven shuddered, the earth did quake,  
When Satan's fall chaos did make,  
This, God beheld without dismay,  
O'er all, His power still held sway,  
For He is God!

And when in man sin was released,  
And Eden's fellowship had ceased,  
While bondage gripped the human race,  
Upon the scene came love and grace,  
For He is God!

While earthly kings were filled with rage,  
And scribes did search the scripture's page,  
God sent His Son unto this earth  
To open the way for a new birth,  
For He is God!

And when upon the cross He hung,  
And hope from every heart was wrung,  
While enemies did laugh with glee,  
He shed His blood to ransom thee,  
For He is God!

While hell's legions were filled with terror,  
And angels looked with wonder rare,  
God wrought His purpose with great skill,  
He always has, He always will,  
For He is God!

And thus today - He still is God  
For every creature of this sod,  
To lead them on, where is not way,  
Into the light of coming day,  
For He is God!

What an undergirding to our faith and trust when there is this assurance, that God is GOD, and He is in complete control of every circumstance and situation.

In Abraham's great intercessory prayer, for Lot, while he was in Sodom, we read this powerful declaration of confidence. *"SHALL NOT THE JUDGE OF ALL EARTH DO RIGHT?"* (Genesis 18:25).

Our subject is not "why" do we have "good and evil" in the earth, that is part of God's great wisdom which He shall continue to unveil in the ages to come. But the carnal mind cannot receive and comprehend the expanses of God's purpose. And even when we catch a gleam of light in our spirit, and sense an inward surging which lays hold of a fragment of knowledge, yet it is difficult to solidify it into words to explain it. So we'll leave the great WHY? with God for the present, while we consider the great work of God in its INTERPLAY of the forces of evil and good, and with full assurance that the God of all the earth will surely do right.

*"He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him."*  
(Hebrews 11:6)

This is the essential foundation for the operation of faith, to believe that God IS - that He is what? THAT HE IS GOD. We are not on the receiving end of two opposing forces, as many think, with all evil coming to us from the devil, and all good coming from God. Nay! There is but ONE God, and HE controls all the actions of all forces in His universe, and we freely admit, in considering His doings, *"HE hath done all things well."* (Mark 7:37) And *"known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world."* (Acts 15:18).

*"But when we see these things "begin to come to pass," and we see the great interplay between good and evil, then we need to 'LOOK UP, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."* (Luke 21:28).

As you see the fulfillment, the great operations coming to their apex, then look up! The words "look up" come from the Greek work that means TO BEND UP OR BACK AGAIN. We have become so bowed down, stooped over, not just physically, but mentally and spiritually, because of the load of traditions and ceremonies heaped upon us, until our vision is distorted by the creeds of men and the commandments of self-opinionated rulers. Thus it is time to straighten up, bend upward again, so our vision is lifted up from this low fleshly realm, while our attitudes are elevated, and our affection becomes set on things above. We need an eye single toward God. Our dual vision, which has beheld both evil and good, needs to be changed into the proper focus, to know that "All things are of God..." (2 Corinthians 5:18). *"For out of Him, and through Him, and into Him, are all things."*

Our hearts respond to this truth, we affirm it within, and yet as we come into certain situations, we find it had to "gird up our minds" to acknowledge that it is so. We see the wrong, the distress, the evil, and the hangover of tradition causes us to immediately say, it is the work of the Devil. But is it? True, he serves as the agent through whom the negative comes, but let it become clear in our hearts and minds, GOD CONTROLS ALL THE INTERACTION OF EVIL AND GOOD. HE uses what He chooses to accomplish His will. *"This is the Lord's doings, and it is marvellous in our eyes."* (Matthew 21:42).

When we behold both evil and good, and center all our attention upon it, we become that thing. If our minds are set upon that which is evil, then we begin to become evil. If our attention is riveted to that which is good, then in the outworking of the process we will become that which is good. If, however, we try to see both evil and good, this dual vision will bring us into confusion, especially when something we thought was evil turns into our good, and something we thought was good turns into our detriment, then we become confused trying to figure things out. Whereas if our

eyes are always upon "THE AUTHOR AND THE FINISHER" of our faith we find that HE controls all things, and we have inner peace while He brings the process to its fruition.

How we need to be purged from sin-consciousness, *"having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience"* that our minds might be set upon *"whatsoever things are true and pure."*

In the past, tradition has magnified the Devil in his corner, relegated God to another corner, and thought that never the twain shall meet. But God is quickening some precious truths in this hour, and we would hasten to yield to His inner illumination, discarding all distorted theology of the past, and cleave only to the truth which HE personally confirms to us.

## **A Consideration of What Evil Is**

Perhaps here it would be of help to define a few words which are often confused or mixed together as speaking the same thing. Evil, iniquity, sin, calamity. There needs to be real care used in our reaching conclusions concerning these things, lest we "charge God foolishly." (Job 1:22). For example, we have the scripture, *"I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these."* (Isaiah 45:7). Taking from our King James translation, and omitting a comprehensive harmonizing with the whole Word of God, many would charge God with the instigation of all evil which they also confuse with iniquity.

The word evil used here is from the Hebrew "ra", which also is translated as TROUBLE, ADVERSITY, AFFLICTION, CALAMITY, etc. Many will readily agree that God uses these "lesser definitions" in the accomplishing of His purpose, and in disciplining His creatures. *"Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling His Word."* (Psalm 148:8). We have read of the latter end of job, how that when God turned his captivity, having tested and tried him, he became twice blessed.

But when it comes to EVIL itself, then many begin with their objections, for their theology does not permit a reasonable answer. EVIL IS PERVERTED GOOD, and therefore the principle of both is good.

To PERVERT means to turn aside, to cause deviation from the right, to corrupt.

Iniquity, in the Hebrew is "avon" meaning PERVERSITY, while the Greek word is "anomia" meaning LAWLESSNESS.

Our English word "iniquity" is from the Old French and means INEQUALITY, INJUSTICE. Inequality speaks of the absence of equality, or DEVIATION FROM JUST DEALINGS.

While the word SIN means to err, to miss the mark.

Of Lucifer it is written, *"Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou was created, till iniquity (PERVERSITY) was found in thee... and thou hast sinned (missed the mark, perverted thy way."* (Ezekiel 28:15-16). When SELF sets its will against the will of God, then sin lieth at the door, and right is perverted.

Now we face the thought of evil itself, what about all this perversion around us? Is there a purpose behind it? Yes, it is not necessary for us to understand HOW, in each particular case, evil is over-ruled for good, for us to believe it is so over-ruled. But as we read those examples given, faith reaches out to accept that ultimately ALL shall redound to His praise.

Luke 22:31, *"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan (the accuser) hath desired (demanded) to have you that he may sift you as wheat."* Satan would accuse - and if permitted, even destroy, BUT GOD had a purpose, and used Satan to sift out the chaff, while in the end Peter became solid as a rock.

1 Corinthians 5:5, *"To deliver such an one unto Satan, for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."* When this sinner was being disciplined, Satan would destroy him, BUT GOD purposed to cause him to "sorrow unto repentance", and with view to the day of salvation.

Messengers of Satan were sent to buffet Paul, and used to abase him, to humble him, to draw him nearer to God.

To rightly understand these things gives a new outlook on our daily travail, not to lament with Jacob, *" - all these things are against me."* (Genesis 42:36), but to say with Joseph, *"as for you, ye thought evil against me; BUT GOD MEANT IT UNTO GOOD, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."* (Genesis 50:20).

We grieve when one turns from God and gives himself to evil, but even so we read, *"Thine own wickedness (EVIL) shall correct thee, and thy backslidings shall reprove thee: know therefore and see that it is an evil thing and bitter, that thou hast forsaken the Lord thy God, and that My fear is not in thee..."* (Jeremiah 2:19).

The fact that God reacted something which could become perverted in HIS responsibility, and HE carefully and wisely controls all the action, making the wrath of man to praise Him, and restraining the remainder. But the ACT OF PERVERTING is on man's side - God does not cause man to sin. *"Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man. But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust (overdesire), and enticed. The when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."* (James 1:13-15).

## **Turning Our Eyes Toward The Goal**

To see all good perverted, this leads into death. Yet the attitudes and teaching of this world's system, even though it revolves around knowing good and evil, seems to tend to the idea that all good must eventually turn into evil. Why must it be that one bad apple in the barrel spoils them all? We expect it, and it becomes.

We have been plagued with this downward action, and the more we saw it, assented to it, the more WE BECAME IT, so very disgruntled, embittered, disillusioned, harsh in our own spirit, having our fruit unto death.

Why did we believe that one bad apple could destroy or corrupt the good apples? Simply because we knew these good apples did not have the power to restore the bad. True enough, the curse which is now upon the earth is such that the apples with spoil. But, thank God, this curse shall be lifted in due time, and good prevail.

Even now GOD is changing our thinking process, and our eyesight is turning upward, while our understanding is being quickened by the Spirit, as God reverses all the downward action, and we are "raised up" to dwell with Him in the heavenlies.

*"And we know with an absolute knowledge that for those who are loving God, all things are working together resulting in good..."* (Romans 8:28, Wuest translation).

Thus we begin to see that evil and good are synchronized to accomplish God's will and purpose, so that the ultimate goal shall reveal all evil changed back into good, and all negation cancelled out by GOOD. To have eyes to see evil work FOR and INTO good will result in LIFE. "*Christ, who hath abolished death, hath brought life and incorruption to light through the gospel.*" (2 Timothy 1:10). Far too long we have taken the view of good becoming evil - but this shall not be so in the new creation, we shall see all things BECOMING GOOD.

The more our eye is single, to see good, the more we become, good, and this is one of the secrets of entering into LIFE. If every thing that comes our way all through the day is seen as being "evil against us, it is no wonder we are worn out by the end of the day, it has been frustration from morning to night. But should God open our eyes, and our mind be renewed so that we begin to see how that HE shall cause all of the evils coming our way to work into good, we will be able to come through the process more victoriously.

*"If therefore thine eye be single."* (Matthew 6:22). This word "single" means to be free from duplicity, and also has the meaning. TO BE FREE FROM FOLDS. Something that is folded over would naturally have more than one part to it. Homemakers know how the folds in curtains catch the dust, etc. If there are no folds or doubling over, there would not be this catching of false ideas. It's because we try to see both evil and good, folding over one view upon another, that our vision becomes so distorted, and therefore our conclusions are not true.

God is purging out all the tradition and the distorted teaching which is lodged in us, so that we can clearly see that HE is ultimately working all things into good.

It is true, this kosmos, world's arrangement, is made up of both evil and good, but how do we "SEE" it? The goodman of the house, asks, "*Is thine eye evil, because I am good...*" (Matthew 20:15). He was good, he was a man of mercy and compassion, and when it came time to reward his servants for their labours, he gave every man a penny, even those who had only worked one hour. Those who came to work early in this morning agreed to work for a penny, and they received all that was right to receive. But when the goodman, in his kindness and generosity, gave every man a penny, then they grumbled at him, being covetous, and thinking they might have received more. But he asked them, "IS THINE EYE EVIL, BECAUSE I AM GOOD?" They did not see him as being the GOOD man, because their eyesight was clouded with that evil shadow of covetousness.

Sometimes we would like to ask this same question even today. When the truth is present that God shall bring salvation to every man, that God shall be ALL IN ALL - total conqueror, King of kings, Lord of lords, changing all negation into righteousness and good, then they arise in protest. You mean, they ask, after I have forsaken all this world's pleasure, and fasted, prayed, and tried to live for God, that God shall give all the people who spent their life in sin, the same hope, and they, too, shall be saved? Forgetting that SALVATION IS TOTALLY BY THE FREE GRACE OF GOD, their eye becomes evil, and with self-righteousness lurking in the folds of their distorted vision, they reject such love, such mercy which God would extend to His own creation.

How often have we complained to the Lord, when another has received something, and we felt they deserved less? Was our eye evil because HE was good? O, how little do we yet know of love, mercy, compassion, tenderness.

*"If thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness."* (Matthew 6:23), because you become what you see. And if you have an evil eye, by the time it comes to fruition, the harvest is a body full of darkness.

The prophet Habakkuk had troubles with this problem as he said to the Lord, "*Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest Thou upon them that*

*deal treacherously, and holdest Thy tongue when the wicked devoured the man that is more righteous than he?" (Habakkuk 1:13).*

How can God look upon this evil mess, and still be so longsuffering about it? First of all we "account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation." (2 Peter 3:15). And then we know that God has a single eye, HE SEES ALL OF THIS WORKING TO ONE END, THAT OF GOOD. He controls the interplay of evil and good, balancing all of its action, working out His purpose at all times.

*"Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure." (Titus 1:15).*

God knows that THE BEGINNING WAS GOOD, for *"out of Him are all things"* (Romans 11:36), and He knows that THE END IS GOOD, for all things shall return to the source of their beginning, even into HIM. Thus God can look upon the present working of evil and good, and by His controlling of the interaction He turns all into good, into His praise. He knows the purpose and the result.

## **Till We See God's Purpose**

While we sometimes try to see things from God's view, yet as long as we mix that with the world's vision, it causes confusion. All present evil, all of *"our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and age-during weight of glory; WHILE WE LOOK not at the things which are seen, but AT THE THINGS WHICH ARE NOT SEEN; for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are age-during."* (2 Corinthians 4:17-18).

As our spirit and mind become pure, this change will cause us to see everything from a far different point of view. Not that we will try to justify evil, there need be no justification for evil, God will thoroughly purge it out in due time, but when we can see that GOD ALLOWS WHAT HE USES, and the end is for good, then man can begin to REST IN THE LORD, and wait patiently for Him to bring forth *"joy in the morning"*.

Note the definite change of eyesight needed in Israel, when the spies returned with the report, *"WE SAW the giants, the sons of Anak... and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers."* (Numbers 13:33). No wonder it caused consternation in the camp, this was no vision to face the battle with, it needed to be reversed. We need to be able to say with Paul, *"I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me."* (Philippians 4:13). When, IN CHRIST, we can be the giants, and the enemy as grasshoppers, then *"by Thee I have run through a troop: and by my God have I leaped over a wall."* (Psalm 18:29) *"They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy."* (Jonah 2:6).

What does it mean, to observe? It means TO SEE, not just with the natural eye, but with the mind, to consider, to perceive, to understand. They that give heed to, fasten their attention upon lying vanities forsake their own mercy. May God teach us how to discern that which is good, and to turn away from the false. THERE IS A TRUE REALITY, may we be partakers thereof.

*"Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling His word." (Psalm 148:8).*

All of these things FULFILLING HIS WORD, that is seeing them for good. To know that God controls all their interplay, and uses what He chooses to accomplish His will and plan.

There are many illustrations in the Scriptures, we are not going to attempt to tell them, save to notice just a few things. Joseph, for example. God had a divine plan in all of the brethren's envy and jealousy against Joseph. With the slavery, the prison, every kind of evil arrayed against him, yet each being a part of the plan of God, for HE was developing a saviour, one whom HE could use for the salvation of the very ones who at the moment were ill-treating him.

After Israel had passed their time of sojourn in Egypt and it was drawing near to the hour they should leave, God raised up a man called Pharaoh, and he was a cold-hearted, cruel ruler against the Israelites. They all sighed by reason of their bondage, and God sent them a deliverer, but it is also recorded, "*FOR THIS CAUSE HAVE I RAISED THEE (Pharaoh) UP, for to shew in thee My power; and that My name may be declared throughout all the earth.*" (Exodus 9:16). I am sure that Israel, with their natural eyesight, saw Pharaoh only for evil. He represented to them all the forces of evil arrayed for their destruction. BUT GOD CONTROLLED ALL THE ACTION, He moved the bondage in counter-balance to the deliverance until His plan was fulfilled, and then it all brought glory to HIS name, and the revelation of HIS power.

In due time, when Israel had become a nation, and then there was a division among the tribes, many would feel it was an evil - a terrible thing, but we read, "*Wherefore the king hearkened not unto the people, FOR THE CAUSE (turn of events) WAS FROM THE LORD.*" (1 Kings 12:15). God was controlling the action, HIS WILL was being performed, though the people knew it not.

And when Israel was finally carried away into captivity, disciplining them for their sin, Daniel prayed to the Lord one day, "*Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, an brought it upon us: For the Lord our God is righteous in all His works which He doeth: for we obeyed not His voice.*" (Daniel 9:14).

THE LORD WATCHED UPON THE EVIL, He knew what was going on, He was controlling all the interplay of evil and good. He says to the sea, Thus far shalt thou come, - He places the boundaries just where they are needed so that at no time is His purpose hindered or thwarted.

"*Yet, behold, therein shall be left a remnant that shall be brought forth, both sons and daughters: behold, they shall come forth unto you, and ye shall see their way and their doings: and ye shall be comforted concerning THE EVIL THAT I HAVE BROUGHT upon Jerusalem, even concerning all that I have brought upon it. And they shall comfort you, when ye see their ways and their doings: and ye shall know that I have not done without cause all that I have done in it, saith the Lord God.*" (Ezekiel 14:22-23).

We are so prone to say, why? why? why? Babylon shall rise to its peak, and suddenly fall. Church systems that have joined together with the HARLOT shall all be demolished beneath the hand of God's judgment. People shall reel beneath the impact and cry, why? We thought our programs were for God, why has this befallen us? But God is bringing through all the TRAVAIL a company filled with His fulness, with the message of glorious restoration, and the world shall be comforted, knowing that God hath no done without cause all He has done. Our God has sovereignly controlled all things, working out His purpose, and it shall redound to His praise.

The ringing declaration, *the "last" enemy that shall be destroyed is death* (1 Corinthians 15:26), overthrows the whole structure of accepted, but unproven, theology that the forces of evil shall eternally exist in opposition to righteousness. Evil is allowed for wise ends, and when these were secured it must cease to exist, for GOD will restore all things into good. HE controls all inter-action of evil and good until His purpose is fulfilled, and then shall GOD be all in all. Amen and amen.

## **The Interplay of Good and Evil**

By Ray Prinzing

**The hammer against the anvil,  
With the vessel in between,  
'Mid the heat and all the pressure  
God's true working can be seen.**

**Though the processes are many  
And the purpose hid from view,  
Out of ashes comes rare beauty  
When "testing times" are through.**

**Good and evil work together  
With a pattern to fulfill,  
And their interaction ordered  
In accordance to God's will.**

**When we thought it all was evil,  
And we fain would rue the day,  
Yet the end was of God's choosing,  
And His mercy still held sway.**

**So methinks we need His eyesight  
To behold the inner score,  
That where evil is abounding,  
There His grace aboundeth more.**

**And He useth for His glory,  
Both the realms of night and day,  
Synchronized to bring forth vict'ry  
HE controls their interplay.**