

You Are the One Who Has Done This!

by Thomas Brooks

It is the great duty and concern of gracious souls to be mute and silent under afflictions, acknowledging God as the author of all afflictions.

Scripture: Psalm 39:9, Psalm 46:10, Isaiah 41:10, Lamentations 3:22-23, Amos 3:6, Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Philippians 4:6-7, James 1:2-4, 1 Peter 5:7

Topics: "Suffering", "Trust in God's Sovereignty"

Description

Thomas Brooks emphasizes the importance of silence and humility in the face of affliction, as exemplified by David in Psalm 39:9. He highlights that true believers recognize God's sovereignty over their trials and choose to remain silent, acknowledging Him as the ultimate author of their circumstances. Brooks explains that seeing God's hand in our suffering leads to peace and calmness, while failing to do so can result in anger and frustration. The sermon encourages Christians to trust in God's love and purpose, even during difficult times, and to find solace in His presence.

Transcript

"I was silent; I would not open my mouth, for You are the one who has done this!" Psalm 39:9

In the words you may observe three things:

1. The person speaking, and that is, David. David a king, David a saint, David 'a man after God's own heart,' David a Christian. And here we are to look upon David, not as a king, but as a Christian, as a man whose heart was right with God.
2. The action and carriage of David under the hand of God, in these words--'I was silent; I would not

open my mouth.'

3. The reason of this humble and sweet carriage of his, in these words--'for You are the one who has done this!'

The proposition is this: That it is the great duty and concern of gracious souls to be mute and silent under the greatest afflictions, the saddest providences, and sharpest trials that they meet with in this world.

David's silence is an acknowledgment of God as the author of all the afflictions that come upon us. There is no sickness so little, but God has a finger in it; though it be but the aching of the little finger.

David looks through all secondary causes to the first cause, and is silent. He sees a hand of God in all, and so sits mute and quiet. The sight of God in an affliction is of an irresistible efficacy to silence the heart, and to stop the mouth of a godly man.

Men who don't see God in an affliction, are easily cast into a feverish fit, they will quickly be in a flame; and when their passions are up, and their hearts on fire, they will begin to be saucy, and make no bones of telling God to His teeth, that they do well to be angry.

Those who will not acknowledge God to be the author of all their afflictions, will be ready enough to fall in with that mad principle of the Manichees, who maintained the devil to be the author of all calamities; as if there could be any evil or affliction in the city, and the Lord

have no hand in it, Amos 3:6.

If God's hand be not seen in the affliction, the heart will do nothing but fret and rage under affliction.

Those who can see the ordering hand of God in all their afflictions, will, with David, lay their hands upon their mouths, when the rod of God is upon their backs!

They see that it was a Father who put those bitter cups in their hands; and love that laid those heavy crosses upon their shoulders; and grace that put those yokes around their necks--and this caused much quietness and calmness in their spirits.

When God's people are under the rod, He makes by His Spirit and word, such sweet music in their souls, as allays all tumultuous motions, passions, and perturbations.

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