

TWIXT GLOOM & GLORY

Luke 23:47-56 NIV



#1: **WORSHIP** with God's help when I don't feel like it.

"The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, 'Surely this was a righteous man.'"
 Luke 23:47 NIV

"I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God." Psalm 40:1-3 NIV

Struggles I must work through to praise God:

A. **GRIEF** from a broken heart.

"When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away." Luke 23:48 NIV

"I am faint and severely crushed; I groan because of the anguish of my heart." Psalm 38:8 HSB

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18 NIV

B. **COMPLACENCY** from a distant heart.

"But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things." Luke 23:49 NIV

"Come near to God and He will come near to you." James 4:8 NIV

#2: **DO GOOD** when I see the opportunity.

"Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action... He took [Jesus' body] down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock." Luke 23:50-51,53 NIV

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9 ESV

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good deeds." Hebrews 10:24 ESV

#3: **OBEY** the commandments trusting that God knows best.

"The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. Then they wen home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment." Luke 23:55-56 NIV

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. / You are my friends if you do what I command you." John 14:15 / 15:14 NASB