

A person is seen from behind, sitting on a dark wooden bench on a grassy shore. They are looking out over a large body of water towards a distant, hazy horizon. The sky is filled with dramatic, layered clouds, with some light breaking through near the horizon, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**WHEN
GOD
SEEMS
SILENT**

KEY VERSE – JOB 23:8-10 NLT

“I go east, but he is not there. I go west, but I cannot find him.

I do not see him in the north, for he is hidden. I look to the south, but he is concealed.

But he knows where I am going.

And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold.”

1 ~ WE HAVE A DREAM (GEN. 37:2-9)

Acts 2:17-18 tells us God gives us visions and dreams.

2 ~ GOD SEEMS TO BECOME SILENT (GEN. 37:19-24)

**Often those close to us cause us the most pain and
God seems to be silent.**

**3 ~ GOD SEEMS TO REMAIN SILENT AND
WE FACE UNMET EXPECTATIONS
(GEN. 37:28)**

Proverbs 13:12 describes the pain of unfulfilled expectations, “Hope deferred makes the heart sick.”

4 ~ WE FACE THE DICHOTOMY OF LIVING WITH BLESSING AND LIVING WITH THE DIFFICULTY OF GOD SEEMING TO BE SILENT AT THE SAME TIME (GEN. 39:1-4)

In one area of your life you may be prospering, but God may seem to be silent in another area of your life where you are experiencing great difficulty or great pain.

**5 ~ SOMETIMES GOD SEEMS TO REMAIN SILENT
WHEN WE ARE LIED ABOUT FOR DOING THE
RIGHT THING (GEN. 39:16-20)**

**It always pays to obey the Lord, regardless of what we
are presently facing.**

**6 ~ GOD SOMETIMES SEEMS TO REMAIN SILENT
WHEN WE ARE USING OUR GIFTS TO SERVE
OTHERS (GEN. 40:12-15 & 23)**

Jesus was giving his life on the cross for us, but his heavenly father seemed to be silent - "My God, my God why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46)

**7 ~ GOD WORKS BEHIND THE SCENES WHEN
HE SEEMS TO BE SILENT TO PREPARE US
FOR HIS PURPOSES
(GEN. 41:1, 14, 39-41)**

God is preparing a “suddenly” for you!

**8 ~ GOD USES TIMES WHEN HE SEEMS TO BE
SILENT TO CONFORM US INTO HIS IMAGE
(GEN. 50:19, 20)**

**God calls us “*to be conformed to the image of His Son*”
(Romans 8:29)**

LET'S LOOK AT THESE KEY VERSES ONE MORE TIME

“I go east, but he is not there. I go west, but I cannot find him.

I do not see him in the north, for he is hidden. I look to the south, but he is concealed.

But he knows where I am going.

And when he tests me, I will come out as pure as gold.” (Job 23:8-10 NLT)

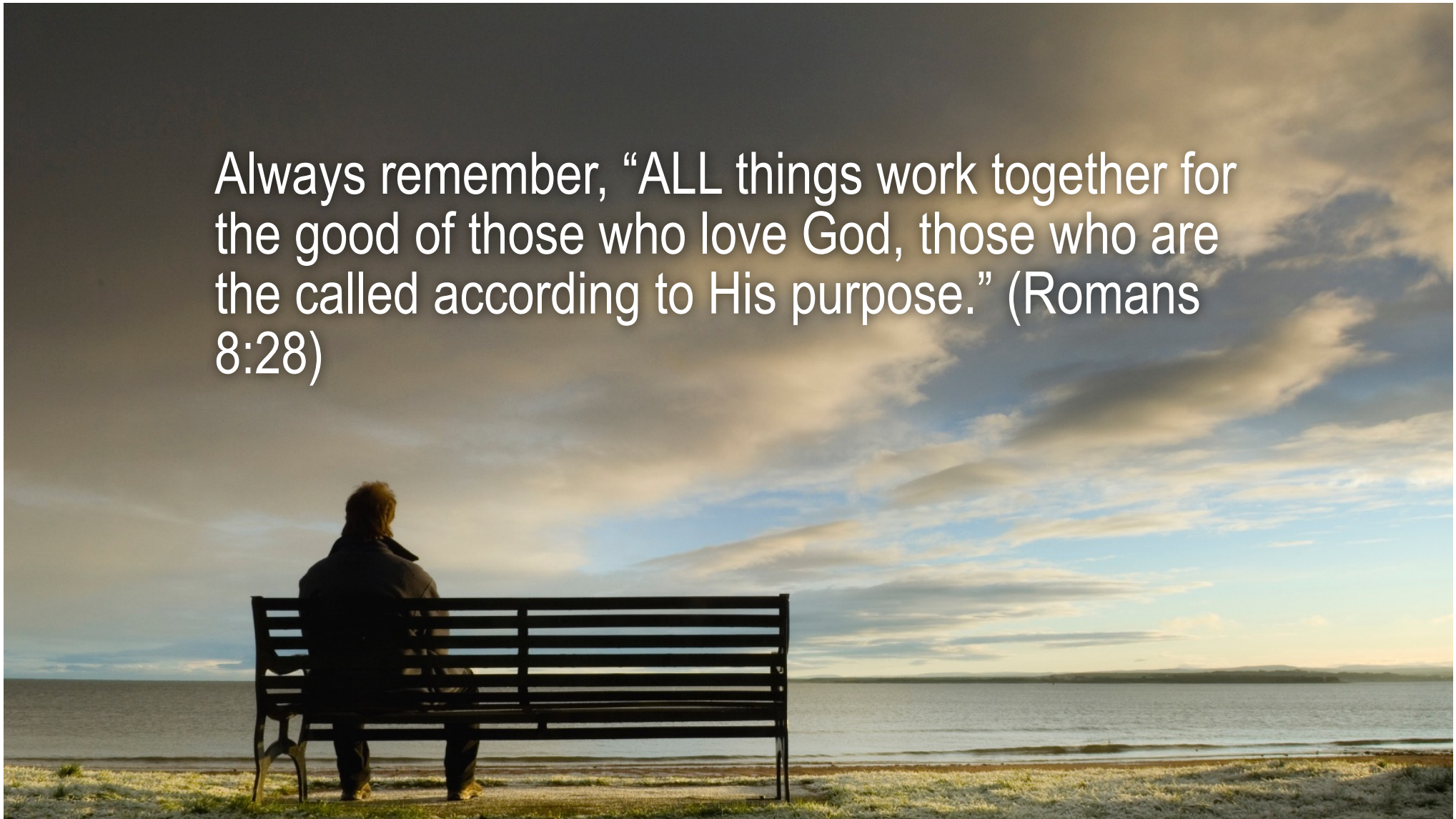
THE 12 Ds OF THE DEVIL

Hebrews 12:15: “See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.”

1. **Disappointment**
2. **Discontentment**
3. **Discouragement**
4. **Doubt**
5. **Disbelief**
6. **Disillusionment**

7. **Deception**
8. **Disobedience**
9. **Discord**
10. **Dysfunction**
11. **Despair**
12. **Destruction**

Always remember, “ALL things work together for the good of those who love God, those who are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)



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