

Misfortunes Can Be Blessings

Swoosh! Did you hear that? That was one of the many frightening sounds of Hurricane Dorian as it ripped through the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama last year. The storm wreaked havoc on our islands causing major destruction; some things lost were replaceable while others like human lives were irreplaceable. No one wants to go through an unpleasant situation like that, but did you know that misfortunes can sometimes be blessings?

First, the misfortune that Hurricane Dorian brought to the Bahamas forced us to reexamine our hurricane procedures. We have learned that we must have better evacuation plans and must ensure that we have stricter building codes so that our homes and businesses can withstand hurricanes. Although the task of rebuilding homes and communities seems daunting, we can now build better, stronger ones. Hurricane Dorian turned out to be a blessing because it helped us to see weak areas in our country's emergency management system that need to be strengthened so that we can be more prepared in the future.

Additionally, the misfortune of the storm has helped us come together as one people, united in love and service. Prejudices were put aside as all nationalities bonded over a common cause; helping each other cope with the loss brought on by Hurricane Dorian. Neighboring countries also provided assistance which gave the Bahamian people much needed relief to begin the healing process.

Finally, while we don't know why God allowed such a tragic event to take place, but we can find comfort in the Bible that tells us that all things, whether good or bad, work together for our good. As we are going through our trial, we may feel as if it's the end of the world, but just as Hurricane Dorian has shown us how to love one another, how to better prepare our country for disaster and shown us the need to make our homes safer for our families, we realize that misfortunes can actually be blessings.

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