

BIBLE WORK

What does the Bible say about life's silver linings?

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces; perseverance, character, and hope.

ROMANS 5:3-4

The saying "There's a silver lining in every cloud" originated not in the Bible, but in a poem written by John Milton in 1634. A metaphor for optimism, it means that a negative may have a positive to it.

While every rainbow begins with rain, mourning a loved one has more than its fair share of overcast days, yet clouds often symbolize that God is near. Job is a good example of finding the silver lining in life's difficulties because, in the end, Job gained more than he lost. Yet, finding a silver lining isn't easy when we're in great sorrow.

The Bible tells us that God is good, and He will do good through the trial we're now enduring. **Romans 8:28** says that God loves those who are His children, and He works all things together for good for us. So that must mean that the tribulations in our lives are part of the working together of all things for good. Therefore, all trials and tribulations must have a divine purpose, which is a silver lining in itself.

Is it possible to find a silver lining in sorrow? What good can come from the death of our loved one? When we don't see anything positive rising from our loss, is it possible to still believe in the bigger picture of God's work?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT TRIBULATIONS AND OPTIMISM?

Does the Bible's portrayal of optimism bring comfort?
If so, what scriptures do you find helpful?

ANSWER:



SCRIPTURES TO EXPLORE

- PHILIPPIANS 1:12-18
- ROMANS 8:28
- JOB 2:10
- JOB 42:10

MY SCRIPTURES



PRAYER

Dear God,

I struggle to find optimism, as I don't see anything good that has come from my loved one's death. Please help me open my eyes and heart to the blessings that may arise from my loss.

Lord, I thank you for the knowledge that I was created to shine with your glory. I ask you to give me the energy to shine with all my might as a testament of my love for you, even in times of deep grief. I ask you to use my sorrow to help others struggling with their own.

In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

