

# The Pastor's Corner

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor 4:17-18 NKJV).

We all have watched a historical moment in our nation's capital this week with the Presidential Inauguration. There was a lot of anticipation filled with much emotions as our nation take on the first African American president Barack Obama. According to some reports, the country seem to have embraced this presidential election as they are ready for some new changes. And so there seems to be a positive feeling among a good percentage of the citizens of this country. Nevertheless, and unfortunately, this excitement and new long-awaited leadership comes at a difficult time. It comes at a time when, some economists say, we are facing the worst recession since the Great Depression.

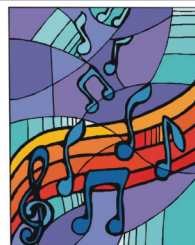
We can only try and imagine life during the Great Depression years but from what we've seen from history, it was not an easy time to live and take care of children. Today we see those same symptoms in our economy – people losing jobs, demand is low, spending is low, consumption is low, major industries slipping downward, big businesses going under, etc. We

cannot ignore the downward slope of our economy and the difficult times ahead. But I am reminded of the words of George Mueller, "God delights to increase the faith of His children...I say, and say it deliberately—trials, difficulties and sometimes defeat, are the very food of faith."

It goes in line with what Paul says to the church in Corinth. I hear him saying to us also, don't look at the things appearing before you because they are only temporary, instead, look by faith at the things that are beyond because those things are eternal. The glitters, excitements, as well as the difficulties are all temporary and will all pass away. As Christians, we are to look at what goes on in the world from the eyes of faith. After all, and in the words of Martin Luther, "God our Father has made all things depend on faith so that whoever has faith will have everything, and whoever does not have faith will have nothing."

May these trying times ahead be food to build your faith and bring you to a closer walk with God as we continue to live, serve, and wait for his soon return.

~ by Pastor Fred Toailoa



O sing to the Lord a new song: sing to the Lord all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name, tell of His salvation from day to day." Psalm 96:1-2