

CHANGING DIRECTIONS

INTRODUCTION:

In changing directions we may some time be forced to bear burdens (Crosses) that are not of our own making. When we are forced to change directions in life we may react differently:

1. Some find themselves given to hot anger.
2. Others are driven to suicide.
3. Still others face up to the reality of life, change their direction in life, and bear cheerfully heavy burdens not of their own making.

EXAMPLES

1. Simon of Cyrene was coming into Jerusalem.
 1. He had to change (was forced) directions and forced to bear a burden (the cross of Jesus) that was not of his making. *John*
Matt. 27:32; Mark 15:21; Luke 23:26. 19:17
2. Joseph was sold by his envious brethren from a life of luxury to a life of slavery in Egypt.
 1. Joseph was faced with a sudden change of life direction, and forced to bear a cross that was not of his making. Gen. 37:15-36
(Read beginning in chapter 37 last 14 chapters of Genesis for complete story.)
3. The man born blind of John 9:1-41. Not necessarily a change in direction of life for he was born blind.
 1. How did he react under the weight of a burden (blindness) for which he nor his parents were responsible.
4. The boy about 12 years old who had never recognized his mama and papa.
 1. These parents like all good parents had dreams for a happy home. For her son to be born in this condition were not her plans.
 2. She had to bear a burden not hers.
5. Sister Eck in Austin, Texas.
6. The little blind girl on TV who said that her *Mama seemed pretty.*

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