

We all face difficulties and things that are not fair - someone walks out of a relationship, you have a financial setback, a dishonest co-worker makes you look bad and gets the promotion you deserve etc. But God sees *everything* you go through. He doesn't keep you from all the trouble, but when trouble comes, instead of being upset, today's Scripture verse says it qualifies you for double what you had before - twice the joy, twice the resources, twice the influence. God never brings you out the same. He makes the enemy pay for bringing the difficulty.

When you understand this principle of hope, you won't live bitter when people do you wrong; you won't give up on your dreams because something unfair happens. You know that it is setting you up for something greater. The co-worker who thought he was hurting you didn't realize he just qualified you for double. Without that financial setback, you wouldn't see the blessing and favour that you are going to see. Yes, it is painful when a friend betrays you, but instead of living discouraged, you know it will open the door to other great relationships.

Zechariah 9:12 "Return to the stronghold, you prisoners of hope. Even today I declare that I will restore double to you."