



A *D* DIAMOND

IN THE

*R*OUGH

(but full of potential)

 CHAPTER II

I have spoken a lot about the storms in my life, but the sun does come out tomorrow. It is because of the storms I was able to grow and not be tossed to and fro with every wind of doctrine. Storms do come, but it's what we do in the midst of the storm that determines victory or defeat. I had to learn the importance of praising God while in the storm. When we gripe and complain about our problems or trials, we magnify those problems. But when we praise God while we are going through those problems, God goes to work on our behalf and brings us out of the situations. The fact that we are struggling and going through some things and yet we are praising God, it gives him pleasure. The Word of God teaches that God inhabits the praises of his people. He just hangs around like a proud father and nothing pleases him more than to rescue us and bring us out of those things with a strong arm. In all things, give thanks. We are not thanking God because we are going through some things; we are thanking him because he is going to bring us out of that thing.

From my experience, I have learned that the troubles don't last always. Everything will be all right if you are trusting and believing in God. Even though I had some terrible things happen to me at an early age, they shaped me to be the person I am today. When I was a child, I could not understand why I had to go through all of those terrible things. Even as an adult, I experienced many tragedies in my life, but I found peace and deliverance through my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I finally realized that it was not my fault when I was raped and I learned how to stop punishing myself for it. According to Romans 3:23, We all have sinned come short of the glory of God and all are as filthy rags.

I judged myself so harshly because I felt as if the world was judging me, but there is only one judge and that is Jesus Christ. When Jesus went to the cross and said "it is finished", everything that pertained to our lives was finished at that very moment. Jesus did a complete work before he ascended to heaven to be with the Father. He paid the price for our righteousness, health, wealth, love, peace, happiness, prosperity, everything that you and I will ever need in this life, Jesus paid the price for it on the day of redemption. You and

A Diamond in the Rough

I have right standing with the Father because of Jesus. We can go boldly before to the throne of grace and receive help in the time of need. Everything that Satan tried to steal from us through Adam's disobedience was redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ. No one can go around bragging about how righteous they are and no one has the right to judge others.

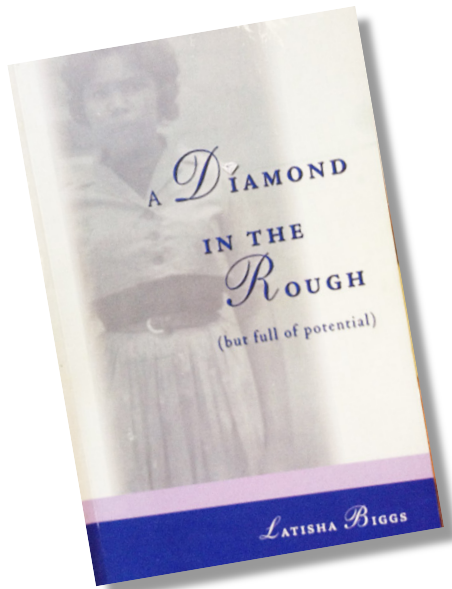
Jesus never told us life would be easy, but he promised that he would be with us always; he said he would never leave us nor forsake us even until the end of time. Whatever situation you are in right now, Jesus is right there with you. You are not alone; Jesus is with you. All you need is faith the size of a mustard seed, and you can command that mountain to move from here to yonder and it must obey. I had to go through some things, some rough and tough things, but I did not go alone. There wasn't just one person walking around in that mess; there were two of us, me and Jesus.

I thank God for loving me enough to take me through some things because from it, I learned patience, endurance, longsuffering, joy, peace and love. No one can ever take that away from me.

Latisha Biggs

When the Lord teaches you something, you will never
forget his teachings because it is forever embedded in your
heart...

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