

# The Discipline of God is Strong

By Jim Elliff



The discipline of God is strong  
To make the sinning Christian bend,  
Until affection, thoughts, and ways  
Are each conformed to God's own end.  
The selfish child must not forget  
Father's love is sometimes found  
In troubles and hard circumstance,  
And in the rough uneven ground.

Do not lose heart when you're reprov'd,  
No matter how extreme the flame.  
He turns the ground and burns the roots  
Of suffocating weeds of shame.  
We must not faint, nor are we free  
To treat His love without concern,  
When God takes love's severest course,  
For lessons to be soundly learned.

Not all that's hard is discipline,  
For we must train our minds to know,  
That testing also from His hand  
Is His design to make us grow.  
We quickly should discern its source.  
If sin, repentance is the cure.  
If trials for obedience,  
They only make the Christian sure.

Rejoice, my pilgrim, in His ways,  
And do not doubt His providence.  
He's never let a sparrow fall  
Without divine intelligence.  
Rejoice, His love works by design  
To break our willful stubbornness.  
No one could tame our raging lusts,  
But God in His omnipotence.

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