John Newton, who wrote Amazing Grace, also wrote a hymn entitled “How Tedious and Tasteless”.  This song was on my mind this morning as I did my devotion.   The lyrics of the song have a sense of depression and the music contains some minor modulations.  Minor music gives an aura of sadness.  The song begins:

How tedious and tasteless the hours,

When Jesus no longer I see;

Sweet prospects, sweet birds and sweet flowers,

Have all lost their sweetness to me;

The midsummer sun shines but dim,

The fields strive in vain to look gay;

But when I am happy in Him,

December’s as pleasant as May.

 People (even Christian people) go through valleys when they feel a sense of hopelessness—Times when they feel that there is no way things will get better.  They may question God’s purpose for the valley they are in.  We may understand the Scripture verse that says, “All things work together for good, to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”

When trials, sickness, death, and disappointment come our way, we may not understand God’s plan.

BUT, one verse of the song says:

“While blessed with a sense of his Love,

A palace, a toy would appear;

All prisons would palaces prove,

If Jesus would dwell with me there.”

When Jesus is dwelling with us even a prison seems to be a palace!

Praise His Holy Name!

Danny Alldredge