

"A Circuit Overseer started out by saying that on this last round of the circuit, the one thing he noticed the most...is that everyone is physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually drained...and that cuts across all barriers and demographics within the truth.

He then said that the one common thread that ran among nearly everyone was this: We feel GUILTY for feeling bad. He said because we are told to endure with joy, our minds can cause us to feel enormous guilt over feeling this way...and then, my dear brothers and sisters...he proceeded to blow our collective minds.

He asked us to turn to Daniel 8:27...

"As for me, Daniel, I felt exhausted and I was sick for some days. Then I got up and carried out the king's work; but I was numbed by what I had seen, and no one could understand it."

He asked if we knew what Daniel was referring to, but other than the fact that this was obviously a vision of Daniel's, we had no idea. He then asked one of us to go back to verse 19 and read that verse...and as soon as it was read... suddenly his point came straight into focus...it says:

"Then he said: "Here I am causing you to know what will happen in the final part of the denunciation, because it is for the appointed time of the end."

"Appointed time of the end!" As we all sat there, stunned and awestruck, he told us that here Jehovah had chosen to give Daniel a teeny tiny little sliver of a vision of what WE would have to endure in our day, in the last days...and then he said, "Did anyone notice in verse 27 how it made Daniel FEEL?" We re-read Daniel's words...EXHAUSTED...SICK FOR SOME DAYS...NUMBED...NO ONE COULD UNDERSTAND.

He pointed out that, while it didn't stop Daniel from carrying out the King's work, if that's how that single little TASTE, (in a vision no less), of what we go through every single day was enough to make Daniel feel that way...is it any wonder we feel the way we do LIVING through it?

Jehovah knows what we go through. He knows how hard we struggle.

The loving Circuit Overseer then said that, while we definitely absolutely need joy to serve Jehovah faithfully...we also need balance...and that means acknowledging those negative feelings that we all experience and finding scriptural ways to cope with them.

Jehovah's realistic view on our negative feelings is so encouraging. What a profound thought, even after everything Daniel went through...Jehovah, in effect, told him..."Let me give you just a little TASTE of what THEY will have to endure. What a way, what a profound method...for Jehovah to reach out across time and link his servants together."