

What did I do to deserve this?

By: Mark Wheeler

When I tried in vain to drown my pain with alcohol night after night...The accumulated pain of loss of loved ones, broken relationships, and dashed hopes and dreams, seeming to tear at the very depths of my soul and filling every corner of my mind with cries of anger and pain...

I screamed out to God.....What did I do to deserve this?

When I sat on the edge of my bed the first night in an alcohol treatment facility, realizing the hopeless mess I was, a broken, confused and desperate alcoholic...A man who had thrown away so many chances and wasted so much time...

I cried out to God.....What did I do to deserve this?

When I felt God reaching down to heal me from the pain and hurt of the past...When the cravings and unpredictable urges began to subside to the point where I began to believe I might make it after all...

I humbly thanked God, asking.....What did I do to deserve this?

When my friends and family rallied around me to support me when I felt the most unlovable...When they called, wrote and cheered me on in person...

In amazement, I asked God.....What did I do to deserve this?

When I agreed to give testimony as to the wonderful things God has done for me, there came over me a peace, calm and quiet resolve that I have never known. As I stood straight and tall in a situation that normally would have terrified me...

I stood in awe and asked God.....What did I do to deserve this?

When I was lifted up in my mind, soul and spirit to a place of joy that I have not known before...When I saw that by following simple instructions I was able to fulfill the deepest desires of this servant's heart, to help and bless others...When I saw the faces and heard the voices of those I love the most, still cheering me on as they watch the miracle of a new life unfold...

With tears running down my face, I whispered quietly to God...

What did I do to deserve this?