

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday October 30, 2023 - Psalm 23: 4

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Read Psalm 23 for meditation and inspiration.



STORMS WILL COME SO STAY AWAKE

Dear Lakesiders and friends,

Above is a painting that portrays the Biblical story of the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Perhaps some of you have seen it before but it captures the dramatic moment of a frightening event. A huge wave is hitting the little ship occupied by Jesus and the Apostles. You can feel the shudder running through the whole boat. The storm is all around. The rigging is loose and blowing in the wind. And the disciples are panic-stricken. It is marvelous to realize that amid the raging storm and the mounting panic and fear, the disciples had to awaken Jesus to tell Him about it. It

wasn't because He didn't care or because He was indifferent. It was because He had such trust in God. He had sunk Himself so deep into the being of God for that period of refreshment that He was sleeping right through the storm. You can look at this painting and say to yourself, "WOW I wish that I could sleep like that, I've really got to learn that from Him: to have complete trust in God."

From time-to-time, we're all in need of a spiritual wake-up call; those times when we need the sort of complete trust in God that will enable us to weather any storm. "So, stay awake," we hear Jesus telling His disciples and would-be followers in the Gospel. You remember in a parable Jesus told of ten virgins who were to wait for the bridegroom who was delayed, five stayed alert and kept their lanterns lit to show him the way to them and five slept with no light for him. The five who remained awake were welcomed into his house but the five who slept upon awakening found that they were locked out!

You do not know the hour or the time when Jesus will return to earth in His Fullness of Glory nor do you know when Jesus will return and call you home into His heavenly Kingdom. For each event stay ready for, **JESUS IS COMING, AND HE IS COMING IN LOVE FOR YOU!**

"So, stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour" (Matthew 25:13).

On the Jesus watch,

Roger

Roger

