

The Lakeside



Message in a bottle

Verse of the day for Monday July 27, 2026 - Romans 8: 38-39

38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Read Romans 8 for meditation and inspiration.



A SEASON KNOWN FOR ADIOS AND GOODBYE

Dear Lakesiders and Friends,

“Goodbye” is the English equivalent of the Spanish “Adios” both are very much the same in meaning. Adios literally means I commit you to God and Goodbye literally “God be with ye.” We are in a time of year and season; children are found moving on to the next grade and for some a totally new phase in their life as a graduation is passed and the new experiences beyond those public-school years are about to unfold. July is often the month when it all becomes so very real. This is often the time when you realize that time seems to move ever so fast, and life is short, indeed.

A father, whose only daughter was seventeen, was going through a loss that was for him a kind of death. The daughter was preparing to go away to college. Father and daughter had been very close, and he was beginning to feel the pain of separation. They had visited the campus, he had seen the new world she was moving into, and

he knew it was not going to be his world anymore. He began to realize that he no longer would be there, as usual, to counsel her, comfort her, and protect her. He was finding it difficult to “let go.” After they parted, he shed some real tears. But then he was able to reach down to the roots of his Christian Faith and move through this experience.

He said, “I find that because I was able to relinquish her and let go, she started to love me in a new way, and our relationship is better now than ever before. I am now able to rejoice in her success, her self-esteem, her developing personal faith. I was able to recall her baptism as a child of 4 months of age, I gave her to our pastor and in so doing to Jesus. I knew that my eyes cannot see her all the time, my arms are limited in their reach, my wisdom is partial, I cannot be all surrounding in her protection and guidance BUT my God can and promises to be her “Good Shepherd” The Baptism of years ago became so very real and when we hugged and kissed and she was off to college without me but with her God.

Maybe that is how we entrust all of those we love into the mercy and grace of our loving God.

As always “God be with ye!”

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Roger".

Roger