

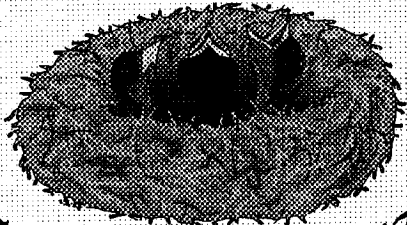
June 2006

*"They shall  
mount up...*

# ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings  
as eagles."*

*Isaiah 40:31*



## AERY NUGGETS

"The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1. "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." Nehemiah 8:10.

### IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

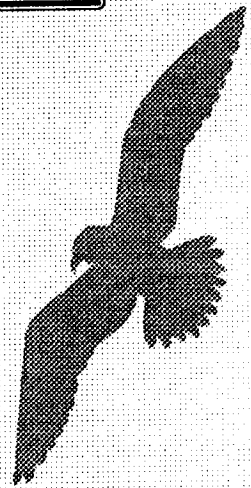
When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot,  
Thou hast taught me to say:  
"It is well, it is well with my soul"

Though Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious tho't -  
My sin—not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more;  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
"Even so" — it is well with my soul.

—H.G. Spafford

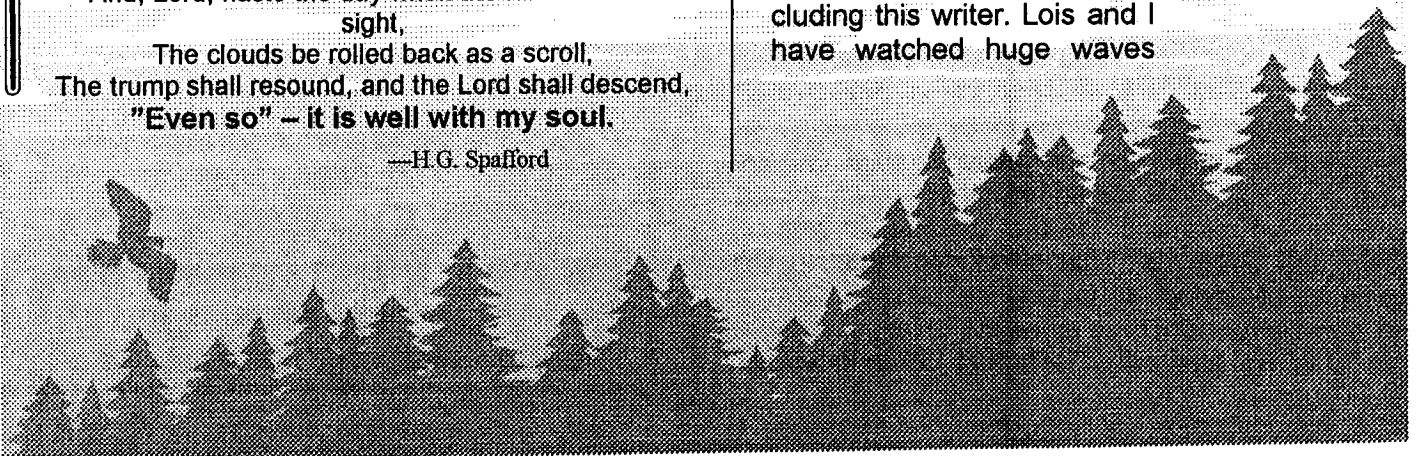


Dear Friends,

A man by the name of Horatio G. Spafford was the writer of the hymn on this page. He was a devoted student of the scriptures and in 1871 had sent his wife and four daughters ahead of him on a boat trip to Great Britain. This trip was intended to give him and his family a much needed rest as well as helping two evangelists in their gospel outreach in Great Britain. Due to some last minute business matters he was kept from going with them but planned on joining them in a few days. The ship that his family was on was struck by another ship and sank in twelve minutes. His wife survived but the four girls drowned. She sent her husband a cablegram with the words, "Saved alone."

Shortly afterward Mr. Spafford joined his bereaved wife. It was reported that when the ship that he was traveling on went over the spot where his daughters drowned he wrote the words for the hymn "It is well with my soul."

What a comfort the words of this hymn have been to many Christians, including this writer. Lois and I have watched huge waves



crashing ashore around Lake Superior. These waves remind us of times in our lives when it seems we encounter one disappointment after another. King David went through some deep waters in his life. He had been crying day and night. Psalm 42:3. He felt that all troubles were like the pounding waves of the sea. He said to God "all Thy waves and billows have rolled over me." Psalm 42:7. Three times he asked himself the question: "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in me? Psalm 42:5,11; 43:5. And three times he answered his own question. "Hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance or presence."

What does it mean to hope in God? We sometimes use the expression, "I hope so." Is that the hope we have for the future? No. Our hope is certain because it rests upon God's promises.

Here are two of God's promises? He has said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5. He has said: "Fear thou not; For I am with thee: Be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Isaiah 41:10. We are also told to "Lay hold upon the hope that is set before us. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil."

What is that hope that is an anchor of the soul? That hope is described for us in the book of Titus chapter 2:12,13,14. We read these words: that "denying ungodliness and worldly lusts we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us".

As we go through the storms of life we need a good anchor to keep us from being tossed around and losing our way as we travel through a world that has Satan as its prince. John 14:30. That anchor is the blessed hope of being with the Lord. He is coming, yes, coming to take us home to be with Himself in the glory. Is your heart troubled by the uncertainty of the perilous times in which we live? We often read, hear and see things today in the news that can cause us to be discouraged and upset. But we have an anchor that will keep us from being tossed about in the storms of life that threaten to cast us down and alarm us. That anchor is found in the promises of God which include the blessed hope of His coming for us. Three times in the last chapter of the Bible He has said, "Behold I come quickly."

Revelation 22:7,12,20. Although almost two thousand years have gone by since these words were written we need to remember that a thousand years in the Lord's sight are as one day and one day as a thousand years. Why is He waiting? Because He is longsuffering and is not willing that any should perish. 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:8,9. As we keep this hope before us it will help us to live a life that will glorify the Lord and bring joy and peace into our lives and our homes. It will act like an anchor.

### We Have An Anchor

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,  
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?  
When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain,  
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

It will firmly hold in the strains of fear,  
When the breakers have told the reef is near,  
Tho' the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,  
Not an angry wave shall our bark o'er-flow,

It will surely hold in the floods of death,  
When the waters cold chill our latest breath,  
On the rising tide it can never fail,  
While our hopes abide within the veil.

When our eyes behold thro' the gath'-ring night  
The city of gold, our harbor bright,  
We shall anchor fast on the heav-'nly shore,  
With the storms all past for-ever-more.

We have an anchor that keeps the soul  
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll;  
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,  
Grounded firm and deep in the Savior's love.

—Priscilla J. Owens

In His wonderful love,

*John D. McNeil*

*"Our Jesus hath done all things well" has long been our song. And so it must be, whatever we may feel; for if the Father of an only-begotten Son settles everything for us which is for the glory of that Son. surely all is well.*

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