





AERY NUGGE

How Firm A Foundation.

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say, than to you He hath

To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed! For I am Thy God, I will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand.

Upheld by my gracious, omnipotent Hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow; For I will be with thee thy trouble to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose. I will not - I will not desert to his foes; That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake.

I'll never—no never—no never forsake!"

—George Keith

Dear fellow believers.

No doubt most of us have gone through some hard and difficult times in our lives. As we look back we can often see how God worked all things together for good. In times of trial God was there to comfort us and to give us the needed grace and strength. In the Gospel of Mark chapter 4 we read of a bad storm that took place while the Lord Jesus and His disciples were crossing the sea in a ship. The Lord Jesus was asleep with His head upon a pillow. (Note: I believe that this is the only time that we read of the Lord sleeping). The disciples awaken Him saying to Him: "Master, carest Thou not that we perish?"

Did the Lord care about them? Yes He surely did. "The Lord arose and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, "Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm."

Then the disciples said: "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?" Has my reader, like myself, gone through some stormy times when everything seems to be going against us



One disappointment after another comes into our lives and we feel like crying out like the disciples did, "Master, carest Thou not that we perish?"

How good it is to know that He does care about us and that He will never, no never leave nor forsake us. He hath said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Hebrews 13:5,6.

The disappointments and trials that the Lord allows us to experience in our lives are really invitations from the Lord to come to Him with all our cares, our disappointments and our trials. Here are two invitations from the Lord. "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee: He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." Psalm 55:22.

"Humbie yourseives therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time; Having cast all your care upon Him; for He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7. How good it is when we can take our burdens to the Lord and then leave them there.

We may sometimes experience what the disciples felt as the storm seemed to be so strong that they believed they would perish.

But then the Lord stood up and He said "Peace be still." How thankful they were that the wind ceased and was still. So it can be for us also as we come to our Lord in prayer. He can in the midst of our trials bring peace into our hearts. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusts in Thee." Isaiah 26:3. How good it is when we can have our mind fixed on those wonderful promises we find in God's word. "Trust Him when dark doubts assail thee. Trust Him when thy strength is small. Trust Him when to simply trust Him seems the hardest thing of all." May the Lord help us to take our burdens and our cares day by day to the One who will bring joy and peace into lives as we seek to follow and glorify Him.

In His wonderful love,

John D. McNeil

Peace! Be Still!

"Master, the tempest is raging!
The billows are tossing high!
The sky is o'er shadowed with blackness,
No shelter or help is nigh;

"Carest Thou not that we perish?"
How canst Thou lie asleep,

When each moment so madly is threat'ning A grave in the angry deep?"

"Master, with anguish of spirit
I bow in my grief today;
The depths of my sad heart are troubled;
O waken and save, I pray!
Torrents of sin and of anguish
Sweep o'er my sinking soul!
And I perish! I perish, dear Master;
O hasten, and take control!

Master, the terror is over,
The elements sweetly rest;
Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,
And heaven's within my breast.
Linger, O blessed Redeemer,
Leave me alone no more;
And with joy I shall make the blest harbor,
And rest on the blissful shore.

"The winds and the waves shall obey my will,
Peace be still! Peace be still"
Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or demons, or men, or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
The Master of ocean and earth and skies;
They all shall sweetly obey My will;
Peace be Still! Peace be Still!

"And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." (Matt.14:29) This walk has a no other foundation than, "If it be thou"; that is to say, Jesus Himself. There is no support, no possibility of walking, if Christ be lost sight of. All depends on Him. If a storm arise, and if Christ appear asleep, and insensible to the danger—though "he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep"—as disciples we are in the same boat with Him. The Lord give us to rest on that with undivided, undistracted, hearts, for Christ is in the boat, as well as in the water. —JND

—Footprints for Pilgrims

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