

## Faith in Your Distressing Times



David Wilkerson (1931-2011) August 19, 2020

Of all people, God's saints should be shining examples of what it means to live in peace and triumph in these fearful days. He has given us an ironclad promise for life on this earth, especially when the enemy of our soul tries to walk over us. "My people shall know My name; therefore they shall know in that day that I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I'" (Isaiah 52:6).

In other words, God is saying, "When you're in your darkest trial, I will come and speak a word to you. You'll hear me say, 'It is I, don't be afraid.'"

In the New Testament, Jesus reiterated this promise on many occasions, one of the most familiar instances being when he spoke to the disciples who were out on the boat in an awful storm. As the boat was being tossed about by wind and waves, the panicked men saw Jesus walking toward them on the water. Scripture says, "When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, 'It is a ghost!'" (Matthew 14:26).

Jesus immediately spoke to them, eager to ease their fears: "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid" (14:27). The word cheer means to be happy, relieved. And here, in the disciples' time of distress, Jesus tied the word to his identity. Remember, these men knew him personally and he expected them to act on his word by faith. He was saying, "The Father has promised that I'll come to you in your storm, and now I've come. Yes, it's me, Jesus, here with you in the midst of it all. So, cheer up!"

The Lord expects the same faith reaction from us in our distressing times. Think about it. Our Lord has never once failed his people. He urges us to look back and remember how he has delivered us time after time, in every instance. He has never allowed the enemy to destroy those who trust him.

The Lord longs for us to find our fulfillment in him and trust him completely. King David said, "All my springs are in you" (Psalm 87:7), meaning, "All my satisfaction is found in you, Lord. You alone are the wellspring of my fulfillment and you are all I need to be complete, joyful, happy and at peace."

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