

"And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus." Matthew 14:29 KJV



Before Peter made his request, Christ was there. *"Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea."* We are instructed, *"Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden,"* but we seem to forget that Jesus came to us first. *"And ye shall find the babe...lying in a manger."* There is no path or sorrow for which you request help, that Christ is not already there. *"He was in all points tempted like as we yet, without sin."* When Peter climbed over the gunwale of the ship, Galilee was stormy. It was stormy when Christ set foot upon it. When Peter stepped over the gunwale, the sea was churning, but he stepped over, because he trusted the Voice of God! You have to wonder, did he rise and fall with the waves as he walked? The sea was not calmed until Jesus got into the ship. *"And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased."* Our lack of faith will cause us to sink beneath the storm, because we forget that we are standing on it and it cannot swallow us unless we cease to focus on the Voice that called us! *"Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith."* We may well sink and we often do, but we need only cry, *"Lord, save me."* Even before we cry out, when the waves threaten to drown us, He is there waiting to catch us. *"And IMMEDIATELY Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, 'O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?'"* The rebuke was accompanied by deliverance! Peter not only knew why he sank, but was delivered, because of who Christ was, not because of who he was! God does not always calm our storms, but He always walks through them with us if we go to Him. If God is holding my hand, my footing is secure no matter the circumstance. The sea calmed when Christ stepped into the boat. He promised peace to His own. *"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*

The storms of life I need not fear,
Because my Lord's already there,
When he says, "Come!" I'll be assured,
His Grace will hold my life secure. ~CGP

How does God hold our hand? Through His Holy Word! The tempest cannot fluster the Master nor any who walk with Him. *"Great peace have they which love Thy Law, and NOTHING shall offend them."* You can't get less than nothing. *"This Book of the Law (God's Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to ALL that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."* Prosperity and success don't depend on my effort, but on my obedience. Do you doubt God? *"Prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."* God will forgive you for disobedience, but you only hurt yourself. I have light bulbs over six years old. The appliances in our home are old, but work fine. Apart from wear and tear, our vehicles are still going. Even if this were not so, I won't abandon my faith. *"Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."* Life is a vapor and an eternity of pleasure counters any loss, so what on earth do I need more than God? Do not despair of treading the stormy sea of life because your ship is tossed. Hasten to the Master and walk by His side!

*"A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."
Psalm 91:7 KJV*