## Wake Up, Master! You Are The Key

'One day Jesus said to His disciples, 'Let's go over the other side of the lake.' So they got into a boat and set out. As they sailed, He fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke Him, saying, 'Master, Master, we're going to drown!' He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. 'Where is your faith?'He asked His disciples. In fear and amazement they asked one another, 'Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him.' (Luke 8:22-25)

Christian life is a journey in itself. Whether a man is performing his duty to the Lord or just carrying out ordinary life's demand, he has to make decisions before or while taking first or every step of life. Whatever or wherever the journey is, may it be going to the other side of the lake or rowing on the quiet waters, whether in marriage, taking a job, starting new study, renting a house or buying a car, gaining new relationship or a new ministry. Certainly, the Lord Jesus sails along as well, if before any action to be taken we pray and intentionally invite Him to be with us in the boat.

But more often, after taking the first step or while already in the midst of the lake, or in the mid of a lovely project, enterprise, or ministry, the tempest may come, the wind of evil may attack, and the raging devil may shower his weapons. Actually, the wind is the opposition of Satan because he is against the will and work of God. And he is always against everyone who is following the plan of the Lord. The trials that may come over in the sea will shake the ship that we are riding. It may shake our heart, our mind, and may even stir our faith. Then we become curious: 'Are we still sailing according to God's will and way?' and we start to wander and falter that we are wrong. Subsequently, this will bring us back from the starting point where we have begun. This is bad, for it causes us delay in time and makes our journey longer and harder. It causes us losses that we may sustain and suffer. But it is also good because these events shake us, purify us, and finally make us see a clearer and brighter direction.

'Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.' (James1:2-4) Therefore 'Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and creator of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.' (Hebrews 12:2) In the midst of the raging wind and angry water we may resort to many ideas and solutions, but we forget about Jesus who inspires us to

do all things. That Jesus who gave us the courage to sail, that Jesus who took us to the other side of the lake, He is the same Jesus who is with us sleeping in the boat. It is just because He is unseen that we don't think about Him and we put Him last, so He falls asleep! We try to remember and do all means to calm down the wind. Our mind may take us away and think of ways how to overcome it by ourselves. Sometimes we try to lean on our knowledge and capabilities or in another way we ask help from our kin believers and nearby people. But we forget the most important measure that is to wake up the master who is sleeping.

The above passage in the Bible narrates a true event that happened to the disciples of Jesus, but figuratively it continually happens on daily basis to us. The disciples of Jesus when they found themselves in great danger, about to sink down, the first thing they did they awoke the master to rescue them. The event does not only demonstrate the power of Jesus to rebuke the squall, but to remind us to trust Him for He is always with us. Let us build our faith in Him and in His power. Let us take the advantage of trials that we are in to build a greater faith in Jesus. And if He is asleep it is just for sometime because He wants us to return to Him and to have greater faith on Him. 'For a brief moment I abandoned you, but with deep compassion I will bring you back. In a surge of anger I hid my face from you for a moment, but with everlasting kindness I will have compassion on you, says the Lord your redeemer.' (Isaiah 54:7-8)

My Dear and Beloved: Whether Jesus seems sleeping or awake, His question to us is always the same: 'Where is your faith?' Therefore, let us always put our full faith and confidence in Him, especially in the most difficult circumstances where He teaches us to ask Him the impossible. Brethren, if we are in dangers, trials or hardly pressed, perplexed, persecuted or in despair, let us stand firm and cry out without doubt, without reluctance, and not to be ashamed to say, 'Wake up, Master, wake up and rescue your children.' And surely, we will be amazed how He will not only rebuke the winds but as well as the demons. He will shatter laws, authorities, and our foes. 'Surely He will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day.' (Psalm 91:3-5) We will see with our eyes how the Father will run towards the cry of His children, and how the Lord will save His people. He will hold His hand and make him calm. So, let us shout with faith, 'Wake up, Master!' as we pray.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord Jesus, rescue me from all my troubles. Wake up Master and rebuke the wind and all the raging sea that is coming against me. I thank you and I praise you. This all I ask and pray in Jesus name Amen.