



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – June 8, 2008

Heart to Heart...

His name was Horatio G. Spafford. He was born in Troy, New York in October of 1828. He had deep religious roots and was a devoted man to Scriptures. As a young man, Spafford established a successful legal practice of law in Chicago. Several months prior to the great Chicago fire of 1871, Spafford invested heavily in real estate along the shore of Lake Michigan. The Chicago fire completely wiped out his investments. In need of some rest and a break from the daily grind, Spafford arranged a European trip, taking his wife and four daughters in November of 1873. Due to an unexpected, last minute business development, he remained in Chicago for a few days but sent his wife and four daughters on ahead as scheduled on the S.S. Ville du Havre. His plans were to join up with them later after his business dealings. On November 22, 1873, the S.S. Ville du Havre was struck by the Lochearn, an English vessel, and sank in twelve minutes. It took several days for the survivors to land in Cardiff; Wales where Mrs. Spafford wired her husband these words: "*Saved alone!*" Horatio Spafford boarded a ship to join his bereaved wife. As the ship passed by the area thought to be where his four daughters lost their lives, he penned these words: "***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.***"

We can hear the inspired words flowing from the throne of God: "*Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*" (Colossians 3:16) Our songs should reflect the deep rooting of Christ's words dwelling in our hearts as we sing with thankfulness to the Lord. If the word of Christ does not richly dwell within us, there will be little thankfulness and little peace in times of difficulties. Only burdened, sullen hearts with little hope that utter spiritual songs with little meaning. Maybe it is time to take a look at what really dwells in us? Think about it!!!

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