

## **Please, God, Make My World Safer**

*(Jesus said) "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand," (John 10:27,28).*

Crack! Crack! Crack! It's the sound of rapid gunfire. Reacting instinctively, a person dives against the wall of a building. He puts his hands over his head for protection. When all is silent, he turns to see how near he was to danger or death.

The brake pedal goes to the floor. Tires squeal, and the car swerves. The driver had pulled into the intersection certain she had the right of way, but suddenly another car was right in front of her eyes. Fortunately, her avoidance maneuver worked. Then she sat and thought about what had almost happened to her and her children. For a long time she was too shaken to drive on.

A storm-filled river rises out of its banks and over the stacked sand bags. A family watches from a distance as torrents of water rush through their house. All of their possessions are ruined. Their very lives are being threatened. The family decides to leave it all, and to let the water work its devastation.

This is a fact of life in our sinful world, isn't it? The world in which we are living really is a dangerous place. No matter what precautions we take, no matter the protections with which we surround ourselves, no matter that there is a God, danger, destruction, and death threaten to attack without notice.

In times like that, maybe we long to return to the relative safety and security we enjoyed in our childhood. How comforting it was to have a parent lift us up with loving hands, wrap strong arms around us, protect us from all harm, and keep us safe from all that frightened us.

There was a time when our Lord Jesus used his hands to take little children into his arms. He held those children securely, and he blessed them. And to this day, nothing has changed in that respect. Through faith in him as our Savior, we are his children. He is still there to lift us with his loving hands, hold us in his strong arms, protect us from all that can harm us, and keep us safe from every evil. The Savior says of all of us who trust in him as our Savior, "No one can snatch them out of my hands. "

The hands of Jesus were stretched out on a rough-hewn cross. They were pierced by nails that held him there. He endured those inhuman cruelties because of his great and infinite love for us. He endured all of that, and even the torments of hell and death itself, in order to earn the forgiveness of sins for each of us so that we might become children of the heavenly Father and be blessed with the free gift of eternal life in heaven.

It's a fact of life - danger threatens us all the time. None of us is immune to that or exempt from it. But there is safety in the hands of Jesus - perfect safety .... eternal safety. I would encourage you to investigate the wonderful promises Jesus has given you in his Word, and, through the working of the Holy Spirit, you will then feel in your life the strength of his hands, supporting you, sustaining you, encouraging you onward through life in a dangerous world to eternal life in heaven where no dangers will ever threaten us again.

"Please, God, make my world safer!" is the prayer of many a Christian. In and through Jesus, God has!  
"Please, God, help me to remember this, and to put my trust where it always needs to be!"

Blessed by the love of Jesus,  
Pastor Terry