

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

This hymn was written by a successful Chicago lawyer, Horatio G. Spafford. The words, "*when sorrows like sea billows roll ... It is well with my soul*", were written by a man who had suffered almost unimaginable personal tragedy.

In 1870, the Spaffords' only son died from scarlet fever at the age of four. Horatio had invested heavily in real estate on the shores of Lake Michigan but in 1871 every one of these holdings was wiped out by the great Chicago Fire.

Aware of the toll that these disasters had taken on the family, Horatio decided to take his wife and four daughters on a holiday to England. They were to take the steamer 'Ville de Havre' across the Atlantic. *Yet just before they set sail, a last-minute business development forced Horatio to return to Chicago. Spafford persuaded his family to go as planned and he would follow on later.*

Just nine days later, Spafford received a telegram from his wife in Wales. It read: "*Saved alone.*" On November 2nd 1873, the 'Ville de Havre' collided with 'The Lochearn', an English vessel, & sank in 12 minutes, claiming the lives of 226 people.

Anna was saved by a plank which floated beneath her body. When the survivors of the wreck were rescued, Mrs. Spafford's first reaction was one of complete despair. Then she heard a voice speak to her, "*You were spared for a purpose.*"

Upon hearing the terrible news, Horatio Spafford boarded the next ship out of New York to join his bereaved wife.

During his voyage, the captain of the ship called him to the bridge as they were passing the place where the de Havre was wrecked. *Horatio returned to his cabin and penned the lyrics of his great hymn.*

The words which Spafford wrote come from 2 Kings 4:26 and echo the response of the Shunammite woman to the sudden death of her only child. Though we are told "*her soul is vexed within her*", she maintains that "***It is well.***"

Spafford's song reveals a man whose trust in the Lord is as unwavering as hers was. It would be very difficult for any of us to predict how we would react under circumstances similar to those experienced by the Spaffords.

But we do know that the God who sustained them would also be with us.



*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.

Trinity Methodist Church

LINDEN, JOHANNESBURG



Prayer is the key of the morning and the bolt of the night.

26 October 2014

I will exalt You, O Lord,
for You lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
O Lord my God, I called to You for help and You healed me.
O Lord, You brought me up from the grave
You spared me from going down into the pit.

Sing to the Lord, you saints of His;
Praise His holy name.
For His anger lasts only a moment,
But His favour lasts a lifetime;
Weeping may remain for a night,
But rejoicing comes in the morning.

When I felt secure, I said
'I will never be shaken'.
O Lord, when You favoured me,
You made my mountain stand firm;
But when You hid your face, I was dismayed.

You turned my wailing into dancing;
You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
That my heart may sing to You and not be silent.
O Lord my God, I will give You thanks forever.

Psalm 30 (selected)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

GAIL DE KLERK (husband Len) had op Sunday 19th whereby old hip replacement was removed, however, the bone was broken during this exercise and repair surgery had to be carried out. Gail has a long recovery period ahead.

EVA HUMPHREYS (husband Brian) is currently under care at the German Homes but isn't coping well. Hopefully she will move to Crescent Clinic next week.

ROGER DOUBLEDAY (Tyrone Pugh's granddad) is suffering with complications after surgery including an infection of op site. Tyrone's parents are Roni & Sean.

JOY VD KLIS – update from Joy: “CEA 12.9, LDH 131, both down but 10 barrier needs to be broken. *Praise the Lord for continued healing, thank you all so much for your prayers, love and support. God bless. Love Joy.*”

LOUIS BRUGMAN (wife Jackie) needs open heart surgery to repair valve but he is too weak. Medical Aid won't pay for the 'groin option' as it is an expensive procedure.

CRISIS RELIEF INTERNATIONAL (CRI) message from Sean Malone “We lost the city of Queragosh, it fell to ISIS and they are beheading children systematically. ISIS has pushed back Kurdish forces and is within 10 minutes of where our CRI team is working. Thousands have fled the city of Erbil, the UN has evacuated its staff but our team is unmoved and will stay. *Urgent prayer cover is needed.*”

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

GORDON BENNETT (wife Charlotte) suffering with cancer & not at all well.

GILBERT HUGHES (Dolphine's husband, daughter Jualanne) has been diagnosed with cancer of the oesophagus & bones. He also has a thrombosis in his leg.

DELENE MULLER continues to recover slowly, her leg is still in plaster and she is very frustrated. Delene hopes to be able to come to church on Sunday.

DAVE (Sherrie's brother-in-law, wife Eileen) still recovering from dog bite.

TERRY broke his leg & ankle in 3 places after a fall & is in danger of losing his job.

WAYNE VD KLIS recovering slowly, half the wiring was removed from his jaw.

PAM JENKINS is recovering slowly and has started her teaching classes again but she needs to rest as much as possible.

CANCER LIST: *Gordon Bennett, David Edwards (UK), Anton Marais (Sydney), Lee Barnes, Nola Dodds, Tracy Hoy (UK), Hilda Louter, Val Warren, Dudley Middleton, Marguerite, Peter, Myrren (18), Diane Turner, Maureen Lupton, Martin vd Merwe (Karin Blackburn's dad), Joy vd Klis, Jean Clarence, Daniela Andrade (7), Russell Jones, Ursula Ryder, Lesley Steyn, Doh Carneson, Louise Shaw (Texas), Brian K, John Sandison, Cindy Saunders, Marina van de Ruit, Brian Tromp, Chloe Thomas, Elizabeth Innes, Greg Cleeve-Edwards, Joanna (Maurice's niece), Joy (Sam Wigget's sister), Gilbert Hughes.*

CHRONIC LIST: *Denese Pieterse* (back problems), *Dave* (Guillain Barre Syndrome), *Elaine Vermaak* (osteoporosis), *Moira Smith* (hiatus hernia), *Maureen Dewberry* (heart problems), *Alison* (spinal problems), *Illia & Graham* (UK), *Diana Viljoen's Mom* (stroke), *Helen Urban* (ill health), *Colleen Hunter* (brain op), *Christiaan Vermeulen* (heart surgery), *Deon* (facial surgery), *Susanne* (stroke), *Duncan Edwards* (rare disease), *Noelle Marshall* (leukemia & eye problems), *Louise Combrink* (nervous breakdown), *Heather Seymour* (emphysema), *Nic Swart* (stroke), *Nic Breytenbach* (MDS Leukaemia), *Pat Mostert* (heart problems), *Elwyn Dyer* (hip op), *Bradley Manson* (Kidney disease, dialysis), *Ella* (wounds on her leg), *Reef's grandparents*, *Eve & Brian Humphreys*, *Val Ochse* (bone density), *Rebecca Owens* (fungal infection), *Noreen Mckenzie* (eye problem), *Coral Fisher* (foot problems), *Jules* (auto immune disease), *Lesley* (broken wrists), *Louis Brugman* (heart & hip problems), *Linda Hann* (needs employment), *John* (Elaine Vermaak's nephew - heart problems, loss of job), *Dennis Meintjies*, Sheila Marley's brother (intestinal op), *Moira Wessels* (in frail care), *Rhys Thomas* (heart), *William Marrs* (elbow op), *Mari Thomasset* (Leg op), *Helene Segal* (fractured arm), *Harold* (Maurice's dad – tired & frail), *Bella* (prem baby), *Hans* (thinning retina).

Joy comes in the morning!

"Lie down until the morning!"

"But it's dark, Lord! My worries, doubts, fears
Haunt dark corridors of my mind."

"Lie down until the morning!"

"Here's my unbelief, Lord!

Take the coal nuggets of worries, doubts, fear

Turn them into Your diamonds of faith, hope, trust."

"I'll lie down until the morning, Lord!

I come softly to Your feet; Cover me through the long dark night.

I do believe, I will believe!"

Your joy comes in the morning!



For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.

But, Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
the sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL.