PREPARING FOR A STORM

RUN TO THE SHELTER

For thou hast been a shelter for me, Psalm 61:3a

I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Psalm 61:4b

Soon after Kathie and I were married I experienced my first storm cellar. As a child, I can faintly remember going to the cellar which was a pit dug under my grandparent’s house to store canned fruits and vegetables. If we saw a storm coming we would go to that cellar. Kathie and I went to a cellar dug into a large bank of earth framed with cement blocks. The cellar was large enough for about eight people. Usually, when threatened with a storm we packed about a dozen folks in it. I always thought we were making a big deal out of nothing until one day we came out of the storm pit (cellar) and a large pecan tree was lying within ten feet of Kathie’s parent’s house. So, you see, there is a reason for storm shelters.

Many storms are predicted. We are so blessed to have good meteorologists and modern software to more accurately predict storms today. People who have access to this and do not heed it are foolish. Some storms come our way that seem to build up right over us. There is no prediction of it and you deal with it as best you can. It is the same way in life. We face storms that have been predicted for a long time. Again, to not heed it is foolish. The people of Judah were warned for a long time about their fall and captivity. They were instructed to repent. When they did not repent they were instructed to surrender. This was their only shelter. The Word of God tells us about coming storms and we had best pay attention to the warning. The disciples suffered a storm that built up right over them without warning on the Sea of Galilee. Their shelter was not in the boat or the shore. Their shelter was in Jesus. When we come face to face with difficulties that we didn’t see coming, we must trust that Jesus is there for us also.

We need a shelter from the storms of life. David said the Lord had been a shelter for him. He has been a shelter for me also. In sickness I have needed more than a doctor. I have needed the Lord. In ministry, I’ve needed more than good counsel. I have needed Jesus. To teach and to preach, I’ve needed more than a commentary. I have needed the blessed Holy Spirit. It has been a blessing to have my wife, brothers in the ministry, good deacons, and good doctors for counsel and aid, but each are apt to fail. God will never fail. I will be safe for eternity in the shelter of his wings.

Sin in our life will bring storms. Trust in Jesus. Trust in the cover of his wings. There is such calm and security beneath the wings of our blessed Savior.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram