

Apples of Gold

Zvi Kalisher's life-changing spiritual conversations

<https://www.foi.org/zvikalisher/>

HOW CAN YOU SLEEP?

I am in uniform again in the mountains, where the winds blow fiercely. In Israel, vendettas can go on for years. Both sides attack each other night and day and seem happy when they have out harmed the other. What will be the end of it? Only the Lord knows.

Some lay awake at night thinking about these things, but I have gotten over it. They can shoot all the guns they have, but I have peace because I have a good protector, one whom few others have.

The other night, someone awoke me. He was jealous that I could sleep during all the uproar. He asked, "How can you sleep at a time like this, with shells bursting all around us? Have you no fear?"

Quoting Psalm 56:3–4, I said, "When I am afraid, I will trust in [God].... I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?" I then told him, "One who has no faith must always be in fear. You must trust God to watch over you. We must be like sheep. They sleep securely when protected by a good shepherd but quiver in fear when they are alone. My Lord said, 'I am the good shepherd, and I know my sheep, and am known by my own'."

The man replied, "What does this parable mean? What are you trying to tell me?"

I told him how the Messiah Jesus slept in the bottom of a boat on the Sea of Galilee while His disciples were terrified because of the fierce

storm and huge waves raging around them. When they woke Him, He rebuked them, saying, “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?” (Mt. 8:26).

I explained that I can sleep soundly because my Shepherd watches over me.

“Trust in the Lord,” I told him, “and go to sleep. In the morning we will talk further.”

He then put his head down on the rocks, which we call the “Hilton Hotel,” and immediately went to sleep. He slept soundly for two hours while the shooting continued. In the morning we met again at the field kitchen. He said, “I slept like a child. What type of psychology did you use on me? I do not understand what all this is about, but if it is going to do for me what it has done for you, then I am ready to believe as you do.”

I then asked him, “What do you think is better—to walk against the wind or with the wind?”

“With the wind, of course,” he answered.

“It is the same when you walk with the Lord,” I explained. “You are never alone. He is always with you and gives you strength. We are going through dangerous times now. Any moment might be our last. It would be terrible at such a time as this to deny the truth. How can a person reject the Lord, who has given us new life, new thoughts, and a wonderful future? The Lord told us, ‘Come unto me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest’. Is it not better to trust Him than to walk in fear and worry?”

The soldier took his soup from the kitchen and sat down beside me. He said quietly, “I thank God that He gave me comfort. I now feel as if I were home. Even the shooting does not bother me anymore. There must be

some great power from above. I can see what it has done for me. I pray that I will always have the same faith I have now. What a fortunate man you are!”

We became fast friends and still share the same rock for a pillow. Wherever I go, my new friend tags along. He seems to be a different person. He has no fear and laughs and talks to me all the time.