

HERE WE GO AGAIN! ANOTHER WEEKEND—ANOTHER SNOW STORM COMING OUR WAY! WHAT A WINTER!!!

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is times such as these that tell us what we are made of. Are you a Worrier or are you a Warrior? Are you going to be among the hordes of people running out to stock up on all kinds of stuff you probably don't need because a storm is coming? Are you going to worry yourself to a frazzle that you might lose power yet again? Or are you going to trust in God to see you through this storm, as He has seen you through so many that are long gone?

Adversity brings out our real attitude in life. What is your attitude? Are you going to allow the irritations and inconveniences of a passing snow storm overwhelm you and wear you down? Or will you mount with wings like eagles and fly above the storm and enjoy the peace of God's loving arms entwine you?

The happiest people I know are those who have learned to deal with life with an attitude of gratitude. Even as this storm bears down on us think, if you will, of what has taken place in recent storms that have passed. Remember the quiet, peaceful serenity as the snowflakes cascaded from the sky covering the dreariness of the darkened earth. Think of the neighbors, usually busy with their comings and goings, rarely having time to talk to each other in their daily lives, taking time to help each other plow out driveways or shovel out each other's cars. Remember the joy you felt when you saw the crew from the power company drive down your street who restored electricity to your home. Consider how members of families, especially with teenagers, could no longer tweet or text, or Facebook, came to appreciate each other's company once again.

Today, my dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, as the storm bears down on us, resolve to be Warriors rather than Worriers. Hear the voice of God speak to you in the prophecy of Isaiah: “Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you.”

As the flakes float from above, find peace in the words of the Psalmist: “Only in God is my soul at rest; from Him comes my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold; I shall not be disturbed at all...with God is my safety and my glory, he is the rock of my strength; my refuge is in God. Trust in him at all times, O my people! Pour out your hearts to Him.”

Then, faced with the formidable task of facing whatever this storm may bring, glory in these words of Jesus:

“...I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing. Look at the birds in the sky, they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet their heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them. If God so clothes the grass of the field, which grows today and is thrown in the oven tomorrow, will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith? So do not worry and say, ‘What are we to eat?’ or, ‘What are we to drink?’ or ‘What are we to wear?’ All these things the pagans seek. Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides.

Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil.”

In short, the Lord is telling us, “The storm will pass. Be grateful to God for the blessings He has given you. Be a Warrior and not a Worrier!”