

"sitting well in order, smite the sounding furrows."

4. *That trust is still more severely tested by delayed deliverance*, v. 25. Not until the fourth watch did the strong deliverer come with the gift of calm; not until after the fourth year of war did the unseen power that makes for a world righteousness triumph over evil and give us peace. The great test was not during the first flush of fighting, but during those days of waiting when the pessimists prophesied a stalemate. "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

5. *That trust may misconstrue her Lord*, v. 26. The blessed and welcome form seen through the flying spray in an inaccustomed place was taken for a ghost. So quite often, when he whom we need the most comes to us in the guise of great trouble, we become affrighted.

"God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm."

Oh for that increase of faith to see that

"Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face."

6. *That trust will one day be justified of all her children*, v. 27. He is faithful who hath promised. Our Lord is over all and behind all and nothing is hid from his sight. At the right moment he will intervene and bring deliverance. Our faith is not a searchlight cast into the empty void. It is not a cry uttered into the ear of silence. We walk by faith and not by sight, because we know that God is, and that he is the rewarder of them

that diligently seek him and the deliverance of those who patiently wait for him.

7. *That trust is the mother of all true adventure*, vs. 28, 29. When Peter saw the Lord coming to them on the waves of the deep, he was emboldened to tread the billows himself. Faith is the "inspiration" of courage. It was the vision of Jesus in the midst of the years that gave David Livingstone the courage to dare darkest Africa. It was the consciousness of the presence of the White Comrade, that sustained the courage of many a young soldier in the great War.

8. *That faith or trust must keep her eye on her true object*, v. 30. While Peter saw none save Jesus only, he walked gallantly, but when, distracted by the swish of waters and the noise of the wind going like great guns, he began to look away from Jesus and to gaze upon the terror of the elements, he began to sink. So then let us forget the storm and look ever unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

9. *That trust will one day know a sphere where beyond these voices there is peace*, v. 32. The dispeace of our own individual lives and the world disquiet of these years cannot last forever. When he shall come whose right it is to reign, the tumult of these hearts and years shall run down into the peace of eternity. "Peace, perfect peace, our future all unknown?"

Jesus we know, and He is on the throne."

10. *That trust and still more trust should be the objective of our prayers*. Faith is the gift of God. Faith is an absolute necessity for those who sail over life's tempestuous sea.

"O for a faith that will not shrink,
Though pressed by many a foe."

FOR TEACHERS IN THE ADULT DEPARTMENT

Teachers in the Adult Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY or the PATHFINDER.

Begin by asking for any light which we have received already upon the character of Peter. Point out that, up till now, the lessons we have studied do not show Peter as possessing qualities different from those possessed by certain of his companions. In our lesson to-day, however, the individuality of Peter is revealed. Making a preliminary survey of the passage, what peculiar characteristics

of Peter appear? Is there anything which shows him to be qualified for leadership? What makes it plain that he needed a good deal more training and discipline before he could safely be entrusted with leadership? Now discuss:

1. *Christ at Prayer*, vs. 22, 23. Remind the class that in our last lesson we saw something of Jesus' habit of prayer. On that