

*I create the **fruit of the lips: Peace, peace**, to him who is **far off** and to him who is **near**, says Yahweh; and I will heal him. But **the wicked** are like the troubled sea; for it **can't rest**, and its waters cast up mire and dirt. **There is no peace**, says my God, **to the wicked**. (Isaiah 57:19-21)*

*But he will speak to this nation with stammering lips and in another language; to whom he said, "**This is the resting place**. Give rest to weary;" and "**This is the refreshing**;" yet **they would not hear**. Therefore the word of Yahweh will be to them precept on precept, precept on precept; line on line, line on line; here a little, there a little; that they may go, **fall backward, be broken, be snared, and be taken**. (Isaiah 28:11-13)*

*A big wind storm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so much that **the boat was already filled**. He himself was **in the stern, asleep on the cushion**, and they woke him up, and told him, "Teacher, **don't you care that we are dying?**" He awoke, and **rebuked the wind**, and said to the sea, "**Peace! Be still!**" The wind ceased, and **there was a great calm**. He said to them, "**Why are you so afraid?** How is it that you have **no faith?**" They were greatly afraid, and said to one another, "**Who then is this**, that even the **wind and the sea obey him?**" (Mark 4:37-41)*

Why was Jesus sleeping?

Do you ever **feel like Jesus is asleep** when you want Him to listen to your cries for help?

*I will lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from Yahweh, who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to be moved. **He who keeps you will not slumber**. Behold, he who keeps Israel will **neither slumber nor sleep**. Yahweh is your keeper. Yahweh is your shade on your right hand. The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. Yahweh will **keep you from all evil**. He will keep your soul. Yahweh will keep your going out and your coming in, from this time forth, and forevermore. (Psalms 121:1-8)*

How often **we judge God** according to our standard of judgment – **performance-based identity**. God is **always** righteous, always loving, always gracious, always merciful – His mercy endures forever. Our problem is our unbelief that God is who He says He is. **He loves us because He loves us** – period. [Deuteronomy 7:7-8]

*Behold, Yahweh's hand is **not shortened**, that it can't save; neither his ear heavy, that **it can't hear**; but your **iniquities have separated between you and your God**, and your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. For **your** hands are defiled with blood, and **your** fingers with iniquity; **your** lips have spoken lies, **your** tongue mutters wickedness. (Isaiah 59:1-3)*