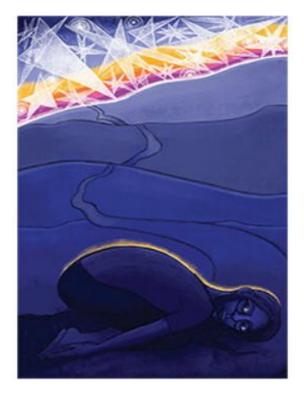
BE NOT DISMAYED



"Listen to me, you who know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; don't fear the reproach of men, neither be dismayed at their insults."

Isaiah 51:7

Don't be dismayed when the revilings come from "born-again Christians."

Don't get bent out of shape when you see "evangelicals" exalting Christian celebrities and national leaders whose hands drip with greed and whose eyes are veiled by deceit.

Jesus is Lord.

He will deal with these imposters when the time is right.

"Listen to me," says the Lord.

Don't waste time bemoaning the hypocrites.

Just repent of your own hypocrisy...

And focus on the words that come from the mouth of God,

Jesus' words.

Judgment has already begun at the household of God.

What will things look like when God is finished cleansing the church, and the fire of judgment spreads to the world at large?

Be not dismayed. Don't get discouraged.

Rise up from beneath your Broom Tree and go into God's Vineyard and get to work.

Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with all men, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:12-14



Prayer: Oh yes Lord, help us not to be dismayed by the hypocrisy, cruelty, apathy, coldness, and finger pointing coming from the religious around us. We admit that we are finger pointing as well and that our dismay is consuming us. We repent of our dismay, our obsession with their hearts, our fear of what they think, and our lack of faith in how you are going to work in their hearts. And yes, help us to look to you, to rise up from our broom trees (our desolation and distress). As we look to you, may we lift our drooping hands and strengthen these weak knees of ours and get up and be the instruments of healing and the peacemakers you call us to be. Amen.

Message: Richard E. Bieber 2017

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