

June 11, 2021

Here's Hope
by Rev. Jerry Rea

God Controls the Waves

Once we were earthbound, but now we fly. I'm often amazed by the ability of mankind to master his environment. People live and thrive in the cold climates of Alaska. Bedouins have conquered deserts. Covid seemed to be winning, but now we are moving forward through this dreadful threat. Who dreamed up the idea of a submarine? What an impossible idea, but now it's so possible that it's commonplace. The thing that amazes me most, though, is how people like the Wright Brothers have dreamed and worked until finally we now fly. If that isn't enough, we also think nothing of it. Once we walked, now we fly. Even the skies have been conquered. In our focus upward our hearts have latched onto a seemingly impossible thing and made it possible.

By comparison, think of God's "control." The 104th Psalm recounts God's control over this universe. Verse after verse describes His mastery of waves and storms and the entire created world. He not only created this universe, He rules it. Think of an Alabama tornado. Our weather-casters can only tell us "it's headed this way." We can no more conquer it than we can forecast it. Storms have a mind of their own. The best we can do is hunker down and ride it out in our basements. Our way of handling so many problems is just to stay out of the way. It's almost humorous because there are many things you can't avoid. God controls this universe. The waves move as He gives them direction. The stars were particularly "installed" by God. The ocean depths teem with the life that God designed. Many environments and creatures live in places like that where one can not even see.

So, if God can control the ocean waves, He can control humanity, kings, and politicians, those who are wise and those who only think they are wise. He moves in ways that are mysterious, true, but beyond the mysterious he moves into the territory of wondrous. Personally, I'm reassured that if God can control the tides, He can certainly help me with my life. If we believe these things then we'll never be without hope.

Usually, when I lose hope it's because I've gotten mired in "earth-bound" thinking and "earth-bound" circumstances. Like sticky mud, it surrounds and overtakes our lives. It is often very true that we "have nowhere to turn." In your own strength, we are paralyzed by our thinking, but also by our weak and struggling spirits.

I *always* have hope, because I am *never* alone,
Jerry Rea