

The Gospel Herald

“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by
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The Designated Captain

*“For it became HIM, for who are all things, and by whom are all things,
in bringing many sons unto glory,
to make the CAPTAIN of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”
Hebrews 2:10*

A large ship sets gracefully in the water of the earth’s ocean and slightly rolls with the ebb of the waves. As it sits in the harbor tied in place by the massive secured ropes. If the ropes were to break and the vessel go floating out away from the safety of the harbor, it would meander about out of control without a CAPTAIN to direct her way.

The analogy is as the so-called church in this time world when men say, “We shall build a church.” Men can build buildings, construct temples and tabernacles, but “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it” (Psa. 127:1). Yet, the Lord can ONLY build his church. Jesus said, “I will build my Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matt.16:18).

As the ship without a CAPTAIN is out of control and subject to going various directions, so shall the man directed efforts of religion become in their sincere intentions. But the CAPTIAN of the ship has its course completely mapped out prior to leaving the safe haven of the harbor. He has determined the stars positions and seeks them as his guide markers while upon the vast sea far from lands sight. His sovereign authority over the ships course and the means by which it maintains its course is HIS complete responsibility.

So it is with the church of the Lord Jesus Christ, Christ is the RESPONSIBLE HEAD over his church to see that she is on course and is heading for her destination. He that has made the stars and named them is the same that has chosen the members in particular of his church, just as a ship’s CAPTAIN would hand pick his crew to labor at getting his vessel to its destination safely and its cargo protected. Is the old ship of Zion on course? Is her CAPTAIN at the helm steering her across the raging seas of life? Is her cargo safely being maintained in its proper place till it arrives at its eternal destination? YES;

the old ship of Zion is right on course, her sails may be a little battered and frayed, but they are in full bloom picking up the stiff breeze of the Fathers power as it is pushed along on her perfect course.

Oh, the peculiar cargo may become at times sea sick upon the rolling and bellowing seas, but never shall one be lost in the voyage. There shall be times when the winds of the Almighty may seem to have vanished completely as the old ship comes to a stop upon the calm quiet waters, yet, it is only a pause in the journey to cause the old ship to examine her condition and make the necessary repairs and adjustments before the winds again begin to blow. So it is in our pilgrimage here below, who makeup the Lord's local assembly; we are confronted with times of still waters of affliction that cause us to take note of our vessels and check our course.

“God is the refuge of his saints when storms of sharp distress invade, ere we can offer our complaints, behold him present with his aid.

*Loud may the troubled ocean roar, in sacred peace our souls abide,
While every nation, every shore, trembles and dreads the swelling tide.*

*Zion enjoys her captains love, secure against a threatening hour,
Nor can her firm foundation move, built on his truth and armed with his power.”*

Oh! beloved of Christ, the Captain of Zion's ship, our saviour, redeemer, advocate, mediator, intercessor, brother and friend...for he shall see us safely through this voyage here below, through afflictions, heartache, disappointments, discouragements and trails beyond compare, our loving Master shall see us through the journey till we reach our eternal home.

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