TO Y SHIP

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I KNOW MY REDEEMER LIVES!

By Pastor Cathy

Let me put my hand up first and say, craziness happens for all of us. Everybody has a story to tell. I believe the test is, who brought you through and how it brought you through. I KNOW my Redeemer lives! I "yada" my Redeemer lives....it's not head knowledge, but heart knowledge, relational knowledge, intimate knowledge. It's experiential.

It is no news flash that we are living in troubled times. And the speed in which fear can travel is unprecedented. A hundred years ago, a tragedy could take place on the other side of the world and you might not hear about it for days, if not weeks. Yet today we can witness terrorist acts, unspeakable atrocities, and vicious acts of violence happening all over the world in real time from the very palms of our hands. It's hard to live with peace in such a stressful world when our mobile devices keep us engaged to the reality of evil and the worst of humanity on a moment's notice.

Everywhere we look there is human suffering and deplorable injustices. And on some days, if not most, it seems like the forces of darkness have taken control of the game. How can we not be anxious? How can we not give in to fear?

We have to remember that we've already been given assurance as to the final outcome of this series of hardships called life. For those of us who believe and trust in God's Word, we know what the final outcome will be. We know who wins in the end. And the more we can reorient our days around those truths that God has promised us, the more peace we will experience in this journey. It's becoming fully awake and fully aware of His Presence.

Job was a man who experienced unimaginable suffering. In the book of Job, we see a man who God allows to suffer directly at the hand of Satan. Job endures the worst of human suffering and yet remains faithful to God as one who was able to see the very outcome of his life: "For I know that my Redeemer lives," he declares. "And at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God." (Job 19:25-26 ESV)

Perhaps as Job considers that future generations might indeed read his words, and need his words, it stirs him to a triumphant proclamation of faith. Remember, someone else is "reading" your life. There is certainty, surety in his statement. This wasn't just something he guessed at, it was something he KNEW (yada). Job was convinced that one day he would ultimately see God in the flesh and that the great Redeemer of life would indeed make all things GOOD. (Romans 8:28)

What a thrill to KNOW that my Redeemer lives! Jesus Christ is just as alive today as He was right after the resurrection. In fact, He is just as much alive today as He was before the crucifixion, and even before He came to earth and was laid in the manger.

A living God KNOWS right where you are day by day, hour by hour, minute by minute. He

He is present to walk with you through the valley. He provides a song in the night. He takes your feet from the muck and mire and plants them on a rock. He blesses you with hope and gives joy for Life's journey. A god with no life is unable to do these things. He cannot see, or hear, or reach, or touch, or provide. He simply cannot.

But my God (make it personal) is alive! The joy and the assurance that we celebrate on Easter doesn't end when the holiday is over and the decorations are all packed away. Why? Because Christ is alive. So rejoice, my family, and live each day with the hope and joy that Easter brings. Walk with Christ. Talk with Him, and allow His joy to penetrate your heart and fill your soul. Don't live in defeat and agony as if Christ is still on in cross, or in the tomb. HE is alive! He IS alive! He is ALIVE! I KNOW MY REDEEMER LIVES. Let the words of this song penetrate your very being. And say with me today, I KNOW (yada) MY **REDEEMER LIVES!**

Who taught the sun Where to stand in the morning And who told the ocean You can only come this far And who showed the moon Where to hide till evening Whose words alone can Catch a falling star

Well I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives All of creation testifies This life within me cries I know my Redeemer lives Yeah

The very same God That spins things in orbit Runs to the weary The worn and the weak And the same gentle hands That hold me when I'm broken They conquer death to bring me victory

Now I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry I know my Redeemer lives

He lives to take away my shame And He lives forever I'll proclaim That the payment for my sin Was the precious life He gave

And I know my Redeemer, He lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry But now He's alive and there's an empty grave

And I know my Redeemer, He lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry

I know my Redeemer He lives. (The tomb is empty) I know my Redeemer lives He lives. (I've got to tell everybody)

I know my Redeemer lives

I know that, I know that, I know that, I know that, I know

I know my Redeemer lives

(Because He lives I can face tomorrow)

He lives, I know, I know, I know.

He lives