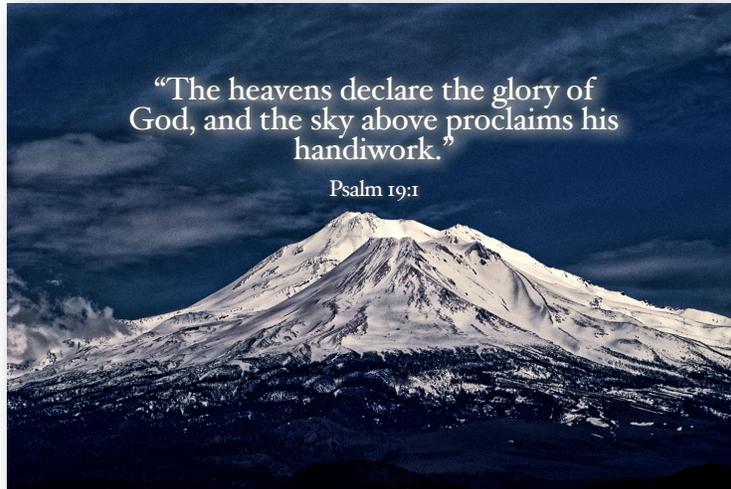


Daily View

“But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’” Hebrews 3:13

November 26, 2020



When we look at the things God has made, a natural response should be, “God’s got this...” [Mount Shasta, 2003]

“Que Sera, Sera”

One of my mother’s favorite sayings that I heard during my childhood was “*Que sera, sera.*” It means, “*what will be, will be,*” and those words reflect my mother’s approach to a life that was, for so many years, unpredictable — sort of like the days we are living through right now.

In those early years, it seemed that just about the time we got settled somewhere, we were packing up to move again. We lived in different towns, attended different churches and I went to different schools. Most people I know don’t like that kind of uncertainty, and I’m pretty sure my mother didn’t either. However, she never let on; she smiled through it all and thanked God in each and every circumstance, as far as I could tell.

The term “*Que sera, sera*” was made popular in a song sung by Doris Day way back in the 1950s. My mom would say it to me pretty often, but it was also on the radio (Doris Day was very popular) and I heard mom humming it on random occasions. She would even sing a line or two now and then...

“Que sera, sera, whatever will be, will be, the future’s not ours to see, que sera, sera.”

I know those lyrics, and a couple of other lines, by heart, along with the tune. They are embedded deep in my brain, forever.

On this Thanksgiving Day, in a year that has been so strange, so improbable, so unreal, I’m thankful I have this memory of my mother happily singing, “*Que sera, sera.*”

It reminds me of Proverbs 3:5-6 which says, “*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*”

Then there is Proverbs 16:3, “*Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.*”

Que sera sera was my mom’s shortcut way of saying, after we’ve done all we can humanly do, “let’s put it in the Lord’s hands, and be thankful (I Thessalonians 5:18).

I was taught to be happy, to look at the bright side, to be optimistic and not worry about stuff I couldn’t control. During the hottest moments of the Cold War, when I voiced concern about the real prospect of being vaporized by an atomic bomb, my mother would calmly say, “you know, Jesus said there will always be wars and rumors of wars.” No, I didn’t know that Jesus said that, but I trusted my mother and those few words never failed to calm my 11 year old nerves.

Sometimes, in these bizarre times, I forget my upbringing. There is so much to complain about and I can easily convince myself that I have every right to be angry and frustrated. Yet, I know in my heart that the good things in my life far outweigh all the negative things surrounding us. I have so much more reason to be thankful and full of gratitude.

Of course, like all of us who have chosen to follow Christ, I am most thankful that God is my Father and Jesus is my Lord and Savior. I’m sure we could all create a long list of the benefits we have enjoyed in our relationship with God.

Today, I’m thankful that I can say, faced with so many things I cannot control, “*que sera, sera,*” and know that everything will be alright. “*Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off*” (Proverbs 23:18).