Jesus Shall Reign

Violin Solo

Sloping Hills of Mount Carmel
As we drive through the southwestern slopes of the fragrant, lush vegetation (Is. 35:2) of the Mount Carmel range, we also think of the steep ridges on the northeastern side, which contain many limestone caves, which have been a refuge (Amos 9:3) and shelter for many over the centuries.

Some great lessons of faith have been drawn from God’s wonderful dealings with His servants on this 16 mile long Mount Carmel (*Har Ha Karmel*: God’s fruitful garden). God’s power was displayed in Elijah’s contest with the prophets of Baal (I Ki. 18:39). Elisha also lived on Mount Carmel, where he was called to raise the Shunammite woman’s son back to life (II Ki. 4:18-37).

Could it be that the proclamation of the Shunammite mother (II Ki. 4:23), “It shall be [is] well,” was in the mind of Horatio Spafford, while he was contemplating the passing of his own four daughters (from 18 months to 18 years of age) at sea, when he wrote “It Is Well with My Soul”? (He and his wife later took up residence in Israel—Jerusalem!)

Although Mount Carmel has had a history of unbiblical faiths—the Egyptian writings of Ramses suggest this as an early religious high place; altars to Baal were set up here in Old Testament Canaanite times; a temple to Zeus existed in Hellenistic times; and, curiously, Haifa, Israel’s third largest city, sprawling down the northern slopes of Mount Carmel to the Mediterranean Sea, is the center of the Bahai faith—the time will come when the Lord Jesus Christ will reign over all the earth for ever and ever (Re. 11:15)!
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John Gatton, c. 1710-1793