



## Peters Green News Sheet Issue No: 22

Sunday 9th August 2020

Mathew 14, v22-32

Jesus rightly named Peter as, “The Rock upon which I will Build my Church.” If most people were to be asked who would you name as a “Doubter,” amongst Jesus disciples, the name of Judas would probably be the one mentioned. I am going to name another name—Peter. If that shocks you it shouldn't. “Why?”

Read this passage from Mathews Gospel and you will surely see why. I want to suggest another name for Peter; “Peter the Impulsive.” Again, “Why?” you may ask. Because he often acted on a sudden impulse. Keen as mustard, ready to have a go at anything. We see that in this reading. Having got over the shock of seeing Jesus walking on the water he quickly responds to the invitation to do the same only to suddenly panic as the strong wind whips up the waves. Peter's problem was he rarely ever thought through what the consequences of his actions might be. We can see this moment as a test of Peter's faith which suddenly falters when things get rough.

Who amongst us has not at some time or another, found ourselves in a situation that has tested our faith and found us wanting? Becoming a Christian is a little like falling in love, suddenly everything is wonderful, perfect, and we are prepared to do anything to please our Lord or the object of our affections. Unexpected things happen to us. We face challenges which test our faith, our love, in turn they test the love of the one we love. Only if that love is built on solid foundations can it survive the worst life can throw at us. As Peter called out in panic for the Lord to save him, Jesus reaches out his hand rescues him and guides him back to the safety of the boat. Peter was often in need of being rescued by his Lord because of his impulsive nature. I suggest we are all, rescued by our Lord many times throughout our lives. It has been said; a saint is not a man who never falls; a saint is a man who gets up and goes on again every time he falls.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

Len

(Len Fowler. Methodist Local Preacher, Member Batford Methodist Church)

HYMN 359. M.P.

Jesus call us o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild restless sea,  
day by day his voice is sounding,  
saying, “Christian follow me.”

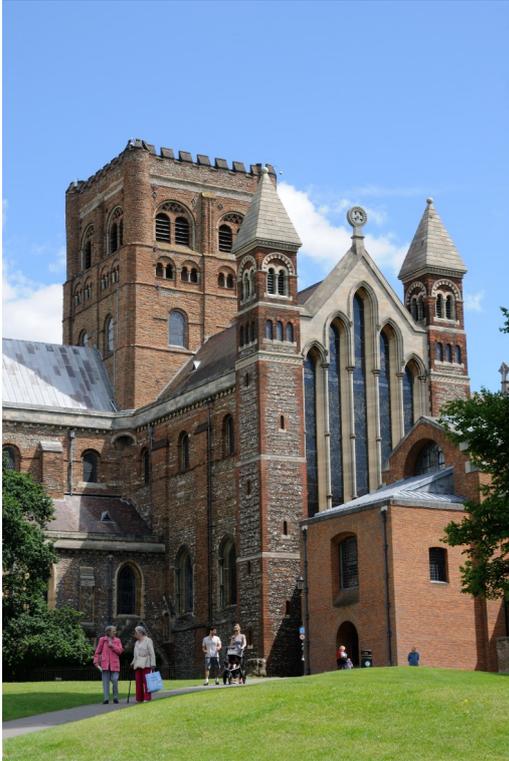
As of old, apostles heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home, and toil, and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.

Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still He calls, in cares and pleasures,  
Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us! by thy mercies,  
Saviour, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to Thine obedience,  
serve and love Thee best of all.

### Pictures of England



St Albans Abbey



Ely Cathedral



The Crooked House  
Lavenham

