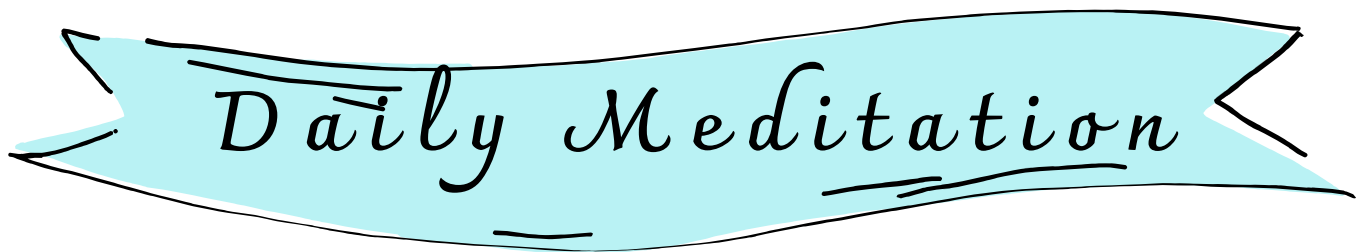


St. Mary & St. Joseph Coptic Orthodox Church
11308 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, ON L4S 1K9

Daily Meditations • June 22, 2020

THE ROCK

THE LORD IS MY ROCK.
- PSALM 18:2



Reflection on (Mark 13: 9-10)

The theme of today's readings is the tribulation that we will face as Christians. "But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations" (Mark 13: 9-10). These verses remind me of the truth





of my Christianity. If all of this was a gimmick or some “fake” religion, then the salesmen are really bad. We’re guaranteed to face tribulation and oppression — who would sign up for that!? But God lets us know that things will sometimes be tough so that we can prepare for it. If I know it’s raining, I’ll bring an umbrella, and if I know it’s going to be sunny, I’ll bring sunglasses.

Does God leave us alone to face these tribulations? No. We draw comfort from the fact that whenever these things happen, God is with us every step of the way and will never leave us. In fact, more than just talk the talk, He walked the walk. Christ Himself was

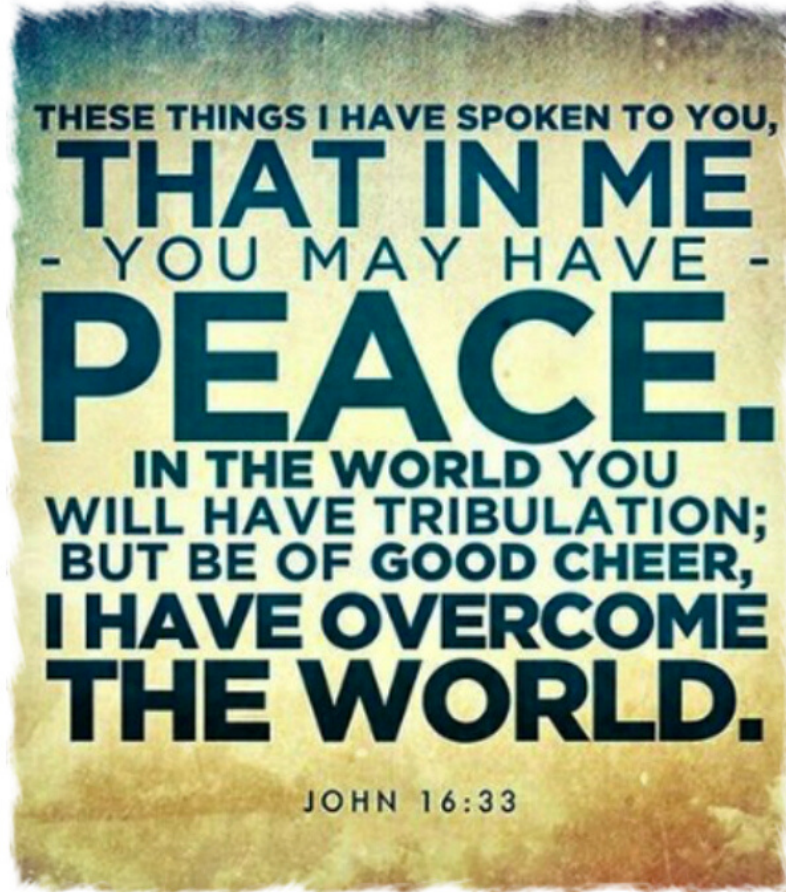


persecuted and murdered! He knows, more than anyone, what it’s like to be persecuted for being Christian. Whenever I feel down or that the world is against me, I remember His words:





"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).



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