

HE WILL SPEAK PEACE

In the summer of 2001 I was working as a teacher and chorister in the Primary Association, the children's auxiliary in my church. I made a habit of writing little verses to give the children that went along with the lessons I taught. In July or August of 2001 I was suddenly overwhelmed with the need to write a poem to remind the children where to look for Peace in this big old scary world, and so I wrote the first two verses.

Verse 3 was written just weeks later, following the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, in a desire to write something to reassure the children on the Sunday following that event. Verse 4 was written some months later as I was doing my daily scripture study and 're-discovered' Isaiah chapter 54 verse 10:

"For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed;
but my kindness shall not depart from thee,
neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed,
saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee."
(King James Version)

I had a melody line in my mind for this lyric, and I sang it over the telephone to my friend and co-conspirator Jim Carter, who lives across the country from me. He changed one note and created a simple but beautiful arrangement fit for children (of all ages!).

The singer should be taught to put an extra accent on the word 'will' both times it appears in the chorus, as the theme of this song is that He "WILL!" speak Peace. We already know WHO will speak Peace and that He does in fact speak PEACE - the testimony and reassurance of this song is that He "WILL" speak Peace.

There is one other verse that is good but I don't think fits the flow of the song so I don't use it - it is based on Psalms 4:8 -

Now I know I can safely rest,
I can sleep with His care so near.
With Jesus I will dwell securely;
With Him there is no fear -
He will speak Peace;
He will speak Peace.

If I live to be a hundred and write songs that become world-famous and greatly-loved by all the children, this will still be my personal favorite. I am very grateful for the chance to work with Jim and for the arrangement he did for this lyric - thank you, Jim! I hope you enjoy it as much as I do and that you appreciate its message.

Thank you,
Bruce T. Forbes

He Will Speak Peace

Forbes, Carter

$\text{♩} = 100$

1. When there's trou - ble all a - round me; When things
 2. When I don't know where I should go, And I
 3. Al - though e - vil won't dis - ap - pear, He gives
 4. Though the moun - tains may be re - moved, And the

hap - pen and I'm a - fraid I know to turn my heart to Je - sus,
 don't know what I should do I know He'll send the Ho - ly Spi - rit -
 to me the strength to feel His ha - nd guid - ing, firm and stro - ng,
 hills all trem - ble and shake, His love will ne - ver de - part from us -

Refrain
 $\text{♩} = 90$

He will make all my fears fade.
 He will guide me, - strong and true. He WILL speak
 Heart and mind He - will heal -
 Co - v'nant of Peace He'll never break.

Peace; He WILL speak Peace.

Lyrics & Music by
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