

In Times Like These:
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worth recycling- a story from yesteryear

A special painting depicting peace was required to occupy a prominent place in a building.

A contest was announced to very talented artists. They were to portray the theme of *PEACE* on canvas.

The finished works were then displayed along a wall and a jury of judges would choose one painting to hang in the building.

The artists brought their finished works and the judges began viewing the paintings.

From the first one, depicting the most tranquil scenery, with a quiet lake, beautifully painted surroundings, and a breathtaking sunset, to another with children playing happily in a lovely grassy area while parents sat on park benches under the shade of a huge tree engaged in happy conversation. The paintings continued to depict even more scenes of total tranquility and peace to the wonder of the judges.

Then they came to the last one. With facial expressions suddenly changed to frowns and puzzled looks, they peered at a scene of utter chaos. A dark scene of raging sea, broken trees, waves leaping over huge rocks smashing against a rock wall.

Consulting with each other, they felt badly that the artist seemed to have misunderstood the project. As they left to make a decision one judge remained eyes glued to that last painting. Staring meticulously into the dark and stormy scene his eyes were drawn to a small addition tucked under a high cliff in the shelter of a rocky cove. There the artist had painted a little songbirds nest with four speckled eggs showing, and the mother bird perched on the edge of the nest, head thrown back, and mouth open as though in sweet song.

The judge quickly called the others back to see his finding. They stared in silent amazement.

After brief deliberation on all paintings, yes this last one was chosen - depicting peace.

In times like these let us find that Hiding Place in Jesus and His Word - John 14:27- NKJV

"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."