

HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Sometimes I feel like a character in a fairy tale. I don't have a wicked stepmother, but sometimes I do feel like a prisoner held captive by my fears and doubts. I haven't eaten any poison apples lately, but I have tasted the acrid flavor of Satan's lies time and time again. I don't recall pricking my finger on any spinning wheels, but I have felt the pain of rejection and betrayal. I've never bought any magic beans, but I, too, have made unwise investments that are still seeking to destroy me.

I've heard it said that fairy tales are not good for us. Some say that they completely misrepresent reality and cause us to be discontent with our mediocre existence. Have they read any fairy tales recently? I can't think of a single one that I would want to be part of, can you? Chased by wolves, giants, and wicked queens? No, thank you!

I, for one, think there's a lot more reality to fairy tales than some would like to believe. No, I'm not saying that I believe in fairies or anything like that. I'm just saying that there are some valuable lessons to be learned. But some argue that there is no such

thing as "happily ever after" and that saying the contrary simply leads people to future disappointment. I respectfully disagree. There is a "happily ever after." My Bible says so.

I know without a shadow of a doubt that I am going to Heaven someday. Whether it be by way of the rapture or by death, I know that I'm going. I also know that Heaven is a wonderful place. There is no death, no sickness, and no crying. There is joy and happiness. There is peace and tranquility. There are no strangers in Heaven, neither is there sin. But most of all, Jesus will be there. Oh, yes, Heaven is a wonderful place, and I'm going. So, you see, no matter how bad things seem sometimes here on earth, my story will end happily ever after. Actually, I take that back. My story won't end. It will continue for all eternity. . . happily ever after.

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord. - 1 Thessalonians 4:17