



In “Twice Owned” the boy takes a block of wood and he shapes it. He sands and smooths it into a sea-going vessel. In Genesis 2:7 we read how God formed Adam from the dust and Psalm 139:14-18 talks about how God knew each of us before we were born. The boy had a plan, a design and purpose in mind for that block of wood. The same is true for each of us – in a far greater way – for the Creator gave special attention to each of us and did not create us in vain, but did so unto a purpose. Fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). As we read His word, we learn how to walk in His will.

— CATCHING WIND —

There are two sails on a sailboat; the mainsail and the jib sail (at the bow/front). The mainsail can represent our need to read God’s word and the jib sail as prayer. Both of those things enable us to “catch God’s wind”, so to speak. Now, if a sailboat is missing one of the sails, it can still do alright. However, when one sail is dysfunctional and acting erratically, it will hinder the other sail, too. In “Twice Owned” a line breaks on the mainsail (which represents our need to read the Bible). Genesis records how God commanded Adam and Eve not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:16-17). However, they did not listen (Genesis 3) and gave in to the serpent’s temptation. As illustrated by the sailboat in “Twice Owned” when the main sail broke; God’s word was not obeyed and mankind was lost to sin. But thanks be to God who is sovereign over creation; mankind was not lost forever!

- Are “your sails” in working order? Have you been finding time to read the Bible and pray? The two go hand-in-hand; one supports the other. What are some ways to strengthen your Bible study? Take a look at Psalm 107 which talks about ships at sea.

— I’M COMING FOR YOU! —

Hebrews 6:19 says hope is an ‘anchor of the soul.’ There was still hope – if only a little – that he could recover his boat along the lake shore. In the years leading up to Jesus coming, hope of the promised Messiah had grown rather dim. However, in God’s timing, Christ came and paid the price to redeem us; by dying on the cross He took the punishment we deserved. And Scripture says hope of Christ’s second coming will grow dim as well (2 Peter 3). But He is returning (though none except God knows the hour) and has called each of us to repent of sin and accept His gift of salvation. Read 2 Peter 3:9-13

“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.” — Isaiah 45:22

Although simply finding the sailboat along the shore, the store owner lay claim to the boat, which still carried value even in a damaged state. And the price tag hung like prison chains from atop the sailboat’s mast. When mankind disobeyed God (as

recorded in Genesis), it was a matter of justice for us to be punished. But out of God’s love for mankind, He took our punishment upon himself, thereby making it possible to forgive us of sin, and restore us to himself (Romans 3:24-25). Every Christian, like the little boat, is not his own, for he has been “bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6: 20).

— REDEEMED AND MADE NEW —

After becoming lost at sea, the little sailboat’s name had become scratched and worn away. So after buying back his boat, what originally read “Glory” was rewritten to read “New Glory”. Read Revelation 3:12 which talks about how God will establish a New Jerusalem in the future. In John 3, Jesus explains that we must be born again, and 1 Peter 1:23 also talks about how believers in Christ are born again.

In “Twice Owned”, repairs to the sailboat were made with red materials, reminding us that only the blood of Jesus washes away the stains of sin. See Hebrews 9:14 and Ephesians 2:13. In Christ, we are made new, born again. We are twice His.... have you submitted to His lordship, and accepted salvation? Or do you remain broken, preferring a “store shelf” over the redeeming power of our Creator?

“In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins” — Col. 1:14

Sailboats have other features, too. The keel resembles a large fin, which serves as a counter-weight to keep the boat from flipping. Sailboats are well balanced between the keel underneath and the mast on top. The keel is a good illustration of our conscience. God has given us a conscience which works like a “moral balance”. However, our conscience can be ignored or even distorted by our sinful desires. Remember how the keel is balancing against the mast and sails? When we rebel against God’s law and do not acknowledge Him (forgetting God’s word and prayer), there is a danger of capsizing. The Bible warns against calling evil good and good evil.

Another feature is the rudder which steers the boat – much like our free will. God created us in His image and gave us a free will (Adam and Eve had the ability to choose whether or not they would obey God). Mankind has the freedom to accept or decline the gift of salvation offered by Christ. The rudder on a sailboat is controlled from the helm. When we let Jesus be at the helm of our lives, He will guide us safely through the storms. Not to say “around” storms, but safely through them. See what James 3 says about helms. Read over 1 Peter 1:18-19

If we will remember to read God’s word and pray, submit the helm to Jesus and allow our conscience to do its job (in the Holy Spirit); Jesus will guide us safely through the seas of this life, to reach harbor in His eternal shores.