



Sometimes the Lord calms the storm;  
sometimes he lets the storm rage and calms us.

Friday after work, I did what I do quite often, I got lost on purpose. I am usually very surprised at the happy accidents I am able to stumble onto. Today was different. I had driven around, lost as usual, for a couple of hours looking for something that looked unusual. But what I was searching for eluded me. Either the lighting was bad or I was afraid I would get run over. Something seemed to always hinder me from even taking a single photo; until the storm came.

What you are looking at is the western lake at Camp Mac in the Talladega National Forrest. As I drove passed the lake it was about 7:00 o'clock, the winds picked up and I could see lightning continually flashing in the storm clouds. I was amazed at the incredible beauty of this heavenly laser show. It was dark but the clouds were so filled with lightning that it brightened the entire sky.

Before the storm came into my life I was frustrated at my inability to capture a single image in my camera. After the storm, I had forgotten all about the "wasted" miles I had driven and the disappointment I felt when my plans were not fulfilled. Prior to the storm, I was chasing after something of beauty. After the storm came, I sat down and watched in awe as this magnificent light show slowly marched across the western sky.

Do you feel like you are constantly chasing after dreams that never come true? Are you feeling frustrated, disappointed or just tired of the continuous searching? Is there a storm approaching your life? Remember that, the most magnificent opportunities come into our lives disguised as problems. Many times storms are blessings in disguise, because there is nothing so bad that good may not come of it.

### **Something to think about:**

- ❖ God may not shield us *from* all life's storms, but he shelters us *in* life's storms.
- ❖ Good when he gives, supremely good,  
Nor less when he denies,  
E'en crosses from his sovereign hand  
Are blessings in disguise.
- ❖ The Chinese symbols for *crisis* are identical to those for the word *opportunity*. Literally translated it reads, "Crisis is an opportunity riding the dangerous wind." View crises as opportunities, and stumbling blocks as stepping-stones to the stars.
- ❖ We realize the strength of the anchor when we feel the stress of the storm.

The amazed storm chaser  
Rickey Moore