THE ST. PAUL SCHOOL

"Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (I Corinthians 11:1)

By Frank Eiklor and Cecilia Contreras

YOU ARE NEVER LEFT ALONE (God's Plans And Promises For You From The Book Of Isaiah)

Lesson 220

"For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is His name; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth." Isaiah 54:5

What a glorious guarantee God has given in this verse, not only to His people Israel but also to all who love Him. How often Israel has felt like a widow - forsaken and grieved (v 6).

How often, also, have godly women felt alone in their grief when their husbands were taken to heaven and they left behind. And how often have you and I felt a sense of "spiritual widowhood", either during times of chastisement from the Lord or times of dryness when He seemed a million miles away and we felt forsaken, forgotten and faithless?

Then in the midst of our pain comes a familiar and soothing voice - the divine Husband appears with His caress and consoling words and all is well. And what a Husband both Israel and the Church have. The very One who made us - who redeemed us - and who declares Himself the God of the whole earth!

Even when Israel was playing the harlot, her Almighty Husband yet reached out in love. And how many times have we, as Messiah's bride, wounded Him through our spiritual adulteries with the world (James 4:4) only to find Him willing to take us back into His arms of love? What a faithful Husband we have in our "marriage made in heaven" before the foundation of the earth. When Norma and I were in Budapest, Hungary, I had to leave her sitting in the car while I went to find a place to stay. It was a long time until I returned, and she was afraid I had lost my way, leaving her alone. When I suddenly appeared, she broke down in tears of relief.

Your Husband, the Lord, never gets lost nor leaves you alone. So, enjoy your heavenly marriage. It shall last forever!

My prayer: "I am overwhelmed at the thought of You taking me as Your bride, Lord Jesus. I long to return love for You, my divine Husband, by offering my life in purity and purpose to You alone."