

ROAD TO DAMASCUS

Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind always be at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

And rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Although I don't have much Irish in my family background, I have always appreciate the Old Irish Blessing. I doubt that motorcycles were even invented at the time this blessing was written, but it could

have well been written by a biker.

Bikers who live in this part of the country [upper mid west] don't ride much from mid-November until mid-March. By the time mid-March rolls around we are getting pretty anxious about getting back on the bikes as our regular transportation.

Some bikers, like me, start riding as soon as we have had one good rain to wash the salt off of the roads. Most hardcore riders are riding regularly by the time the thermometer hits the middle to high 40s. When we do start riding we have to be very vigilant about the sand on the roads. We don't want the road rise up to meet you because you went down on the sand.

When you ride a motorcycle in the north country you learn very quickly to dress in layers in the spring. It can be high 30s in the morning - mid 70s by noon - mid 40s half an hour after dark. Most bikers agree that you can ride 10 degrees colder with the same clothes, if the wind is to your back and the sun is shining on your face.

We ask for the gentle rains to fall on the farmers fields so that they get more good out of the moisture and so that the sand and sticks don't get washed back out onto the roads again.

And most importantly think about safety when you ride. You need to be aware and sober [all types] because of road hazards [active and passive] and things that interfere with your own mental alertness [home, work, etc.].

We pray that God will hold you in the palm of His hand as you ride this upcoming ride season. Ride safe, ride clean, ride free - for you, your fellow riders, and your family.

God be with you. See you on the road with the shiny side up. Godspeed.


Have Questions or comments. E-mail † Preacher Clutter at damascus.road@charter.net

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Excellent Thought. Thanks Brophy

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said. "Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like.

The Lord led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew, which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water. The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful. But because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths. The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering. The Lord said, "You have seen Hell. They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long-handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, "I don't understand. It is simple," said the Lord. "It requires but one skill. You see they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves."

When Jesus died on the cross, he was thinking of you.



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