

‘WHEN Thou art there, Lord Jesus, those frightful forms that fall on us themselves will fall; however much they throng, they will but melt and perish at Thy look, as wax before the fire. Why should I be afraid of them, when they themselves are failing? Why should I tremble, when they shake with terror? Why should I fear, when they are falling down? Though I walk through the midst of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, so long as Thou art with me, O Lord my God.’

—Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (1090 or 91–1153), Cistercian Abbot of Clairvaux and Doctor of the Church, in chapter 6 of his devotional commentary on Psalm 91[90], written between 1138 and 53, translated and edited by a Religious of CSMV, i.e., Ruth Penelope Lawson (1890–1977), and published as *Lent with Saint Bernard* by A. R. Mowbray & Co., London, in 1953, pages 41–42.

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