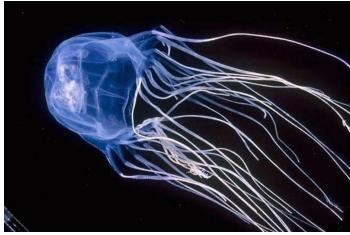
SHY-SOUSHY



(Photo credit: boxjellyfish.org)

Undulating in the sea, jellyfish are an **ethereal sight !** These exquisite creatures have even inspired videos with music to help people relax.

But if you've ever been stung by jellyfish while swimming (or even walking on a beach), you might not be so enthralled.

Tentacles trailing from the jellyfish body can inject **venom** via thousands of microscopic barbed stingers.

Stings may be mild or severe, depending on the species. Usually they cause **immediate pain and irritation** on the skin.

But some types can cause wholebody (systemic) illness. In rare cases, the stings are life-threatening.

Severe reactions require emergency medical care.

Jellyfish are captivating, but they are also **potentially lethal**.

Did you know...

- Jellyfish also called *jellies* aren't fish at all.
- There are at least **2,000 species** of jellyfish.
- Some jellies are bioluminescent. They produce light through chemical reactions.
 Some other species refract light, creating a rainbow of hues.
- Not all jellyfish species sting.
- Of the stinging species, some especially bad players include the Box Jellyfish, Portuguese Man-of-War, Sea Nettle, and Lion's Mane Jellyfish.

Contrasting realities exist in God's creation. But they also help us to appreciate God's truth.

- Salvation, for example, is all the more to be desired when compared to the danger of the Judgment.
- Heaven is all the sweeter when we ponder the bitterness of Hell.
 - Everlasting life is all the more comforting when contrasted with the sting of eternal death.

We serve a God of contrasts. He is loving yet dangerous. Jesus is both the Lamb and the Lion.

If we fear the Lord, we need fear **nothing else**, because all other threats dissolve before Him.

When fear paralyzes the world, God's children can have **His peace** — indescribable peace.

This is the assurance from the God who gave the jellyfish its beauty - and its sting.

"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" - 1 Corinthians 15:55