



Abandoned to God

John 15:4-5

“Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you... When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can’t produce a thing.”

“God is able to penetrate and intertwine himself within the fibres of the human self in such a way that those who are enveloped in his loving companionship will never be alone.”

Dallas Willard, Hearing God

Ephesians 2:19:21 (NLT)

We are carefully joined together in Christ, becoming a holy temple for the Lord.

“The assumption of spirituality is that always God is doing something before I know it. So the task is not to get God to do something I think needs to be done, but to become aware of what God is doing so that I can respond to it and participate and take delight in it.

Eugene Peterson, *The Contemplative Pastor*

Psalm 130:1-2, 5-6

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;
Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.
I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

“In the spiritual life God chooses to try our patience first of all by His slowness. He is slow: we are swift and precipitate. It is because we are but for a time, and He has been for eternity. Thus grace, for the most part, acts slowly. He works little by little. Sweetly and strongly He compasses His ends, but with a slowness which tires our faith because it is so great a mystery. We must fasten upon this attribute of God in our growth in holiness. There is something greatly overawing in the extreme slowness of God. Let it overshadow our souls, but let it not disquiet them.

Fredrick Faber

We must wait for God, long, meekly, in the wind and wet, in the thunder and the lightning, in the cold and the dark. Wait, and He will come. He never comes to those who do not wait. He does not go their road. When He comes, go with Him, but go slowly, fall a little behind; when he quickens His pace, be sure of it, before you quicken yours. But when He slackens, slacken at once: and do not be slow only, but silent, very silent, for He is God.”

Fredrick Faber

I thank You for this, my God,
I am a traveller and stranger
in the world,
like so many of Your people
before me.

There is a sense of adventure,
of openness to possibilities,
abandonment to God
and expectation
of fulfilling His will.

I accept the responsibility,
I'll hear and obey,
and trust it is Your voice I hear,
the call of the Spirit,
the cry of the Bird of Heaven.

It is a Yes to risky living...

The sea takes me;
where I do not know,
but I gladly go.

And I can only trust
every word You say,
and obey.

Through the unknown, help me, Lord.
I will trust and obey!

Brendan the Navigator (c. 486-575)

1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)

After Saul returned from fighting the Philistines, he was told that David had gone into the wilderness of Engedi.² So Saul chose 3,000 elite troops from all Israel and went to search for David and his men near the rocks of the wild goats.

³ At the place where the road passes some sheepfolds, Saul went into a cave to relieve himself (some say toilet some say sleep). But as it happened, David and his men were hiding farther back in that very cave!

1 Samuel 24:1-7 (NLT)

⁴ “Now’s your opportunity!” David’s men whispered to him. “Today the LORD is telling you, ‘I will certainly put your enemy into your power, to do with as you wish.’” So David crept forward and cut off a piece of the hem of Saul’s robe.

⁵ But then David’s conscience began bothering him because he had cut Saul’s robe. ⁶ He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do this to my lord the king. I shouldn’t attack the LORD’s anointed one, for the LORD himself has chosen him.” ⁷ So David restrained his men and did not let them kill Saul.

Psalm 57 (NIV)

- ¹ Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me,
for in you I take refuge.
I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings
until the disaster has passed.
- ² I cry out to God Most High,
to God, who vindicates me.
- ³ He sends from heaven and saves me,
rebuking those who hotly pursue me—
God sends forth his love and his faithfulness.

Psalm 57 (NIV)

- ⁴ I am in the midst of lions;
I am forced to dwell among ravenous beasts—
men whose teeth are spears and arrows,
whose tongues are sharp swords.
- ⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.
- ⁶ They spread a net for my feet—
I was bowed down in distress.
They dug a pit in my path—
but they have fallen into it themselves.

Psalm 57 (NIV)

- 7 My heart, O God, is steadfast,
my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make music.

- 8 Awake, my soul!
Awake, harp and lyre!
I will awaken the dawn.

- 9 I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;
I will sing of you among the peoples.

Psalm 57 (NIV)

10 For great is your love, reaching to the heavens;
your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

11 Be exalted, O God, above the heavens;
let your glory be over all the earth.

Father,

I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.

Whatever you may do, I thank you:

I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures.

I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you

with all the love of my heart, for I love you, God,

and so need to give myself,

to surrender myself into your hands,

without reserve, and with boundless confidence,

for you are my Father.

Luke 23:44-46 (NIV)

The Death of Jesus

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

⁴⁶ Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”

When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Father,

I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.

Whatever you may do, I thank you:

I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures.

I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you

with all the love of my heart, for I love you, God,

and so need to give myself,

to surrender myself into your hands,

without reserve, and with boundless confidence,

for you are my Father.

O God, we belong to You utterly.
You are such a Father
That you take our sins from us
And throw them behind Your back.
You clean our souls,
As Your Son washed our feet.
We hold up our hearts to You:
Make them what they must be.

