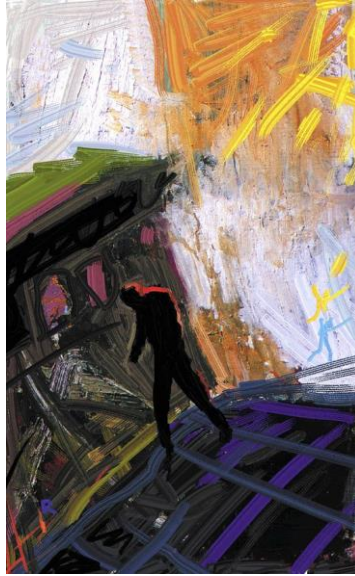


THE DOOR OF DESPERATION



We are religious.

We are “good Christians”.

We are happily sailing through life on cruise control.

Suddenly our world falls apart.

In the crisis nothing makes sense.

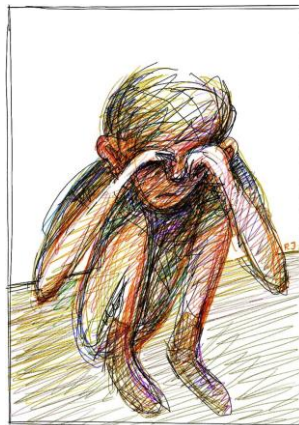
God seems far away.

“Lord, where are you?”

Silence.

“Lord, have mercy!”

Silence.



“Lord Jesus, you are my only hope!”

After countless cries of desperation, a shaft of light breaks through the darkness.

We are passing through the Door of Desperation into a walk with God.

I sought the Lord and he heard me and delivered me from all my fears.

They looked unto him and were lightened, and their faces were not ashamed.

This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles.

Psalm 34

Now the Lord Jesus begins to teach us how to “walk on water”.

To walk by faith....

In an uncertain world.

A dangerous world.

A hostile world.

Living by faith on the edge of desperation is the only way to stay focused, as the dark clouds thicken.



"Then they will deliver you up to tribulation, and put you to death; and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake.

And then many will fall away, and betray one another, and hate one another.

And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.

And because wickedness is multiplied, most men's love will grow cold.

But he who endures to the end will be saved.

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, as a testimony to all nations; and then the end will come."

Matthew 24

The world is indifferent.

Hostility is increasing.

But here's the good news:

Multitudes are destined to find God through that door of desperation....

....as we give them hope.

The Master is sending us into a world of desperation.

He is empowering us to free the captives and open blind eyes.

To welcome them into God's kingdom.

To give them hope.

"Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road....

....Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'"

Luke 10

Lord Jesus, give us eyes to see the ones you send to us!

Give us ears to hear their cries.

Empower us to bring them from Satan's darkness into your Light!



"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

Matthew 10

Prayer-Lord we cry to you in our desperation. Deliver us from our fears, save us from our troubles. We need to know you are with us, that you see us, that you hear us in our despair. As we are steadied by your gaze and your tender grip on us, fill us with hope so that we can learn to walk on water. As we are freed from the grip of despair, help us to bring this hope to others, this confidence in your tender goodness. And yes, yes, give us eyes to see the ones you send us, ears to hear their cries and empower us to bring them from Satan's darkness into your light. Amen.

Maranatha Mirror

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