

GET ME OUT OF HERE!



***"O that I had wings like a dove!
I would fly away and be at rest!"*** (Psalm 55)

If only I could fly away.

I'm stuck here in this misery and there is no way out!

Prisoners and refugees know all about it.

So do growing numbers of ordinary folks in a world that gets crazier by the day.

"Lord, get me out of here!"

It's a legitimate prayer. And it is answered in a thousand ways.

Sometimes the Lord actually takes us into the next world.

Sometimes he strengthens us in our suffering.

Sometimes he sends us straight into the smoke and flames with a burning word.

Sometimes he simply says,

"Be still, and know that I am God."

But always, the Lord lets us know that we are not alone in this tragic place.

***When you pass through the waters I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.*** (Isaiah 43)

One thing the Lord Jesus always does when we cry to him for a way out:

He visits us with the power of his cross.

He helps us to die again to ourselves and rise in him with power.

When we die with him afresh he raises us above the confusion into God's World.

“I am crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” (Galatians 2)

Our Lord never promised us a rose garden.

He made clear that we will share in his rejection and suffering.

Suffering

Much suffering in this world is meaningless and absurd.

Much suffering is self-inflicted.

Much suffering comes from the cruelty of those on top of the pile.

But the suffering we experience as we carry our cross is wrapped in the fire of heaven.

It redeems the lost.

It delivers the oppressed.

It judges the powers of darkness.

It prepares the earth for the coming kingdom.

It is perfectly legitimate to cry, “Lord, get me out of here!”



One way or another, God will answer that prayer, and set us free.

Message: Richard E. Bieber May 2021

Featured Artist: Melani Pyke at melpyke.com

Prayer: Lord, as we face the misery, the suffering, the injustice, the darkness, and oppression around us we feel helpless and overwhelmed, we do cry out “get me out of here”. Be with us Lord, help us to slow down and find you in the midst of the waves. Help us not to be consumed by the troubles in us and around us. May somehow, someway we be set free from this suffering as we draw close to you and your peace, your healing, your redemption is released into us and those we touch. Amen.

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