

A Meditation by Hudson Taylor on The Way of The Crucified

“If God has called you to really be like Jesus in all your spirit, He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility, and put such demands of obedience that *He will not allow you to follow other Christians*; and in many ways He will seem to let other good people do things that He will not let you do. Other Christians and ministers who seem to be very religious and useful may push themselves, pull wires and work schemes to carry out their schemes; but *you cannot do it*; and if you attempt it, you will meet with such failure and rebuke from the Lord as to make you sorely penitent. Others may brag on themselves, on their work, on their success, on their writings, but *the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any of these things*, and if you begin it, He will lead you into some deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

“Others may be allowed to succeed in making money, but *it is likely God will keep you poor*, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, and *that is a helpless dependence on Him*, that He may have the privilege (the right) of supplying your needs day by day out of an unseen treasury. The Lord will let others be honored and put forward, and *keep you hidden away in obscurity*, because He wants some choice fragrant fruit for His coming glory which can only be produced in the shade. He will let others do a work for Him and get the credit for it, but *He will let you work and toil on without knowing how much you are doing*, and then to make your work still more precious, *He will let others get the credit for the work you have done*, and this will make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes.

“The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch over you, with a jealous love, and *will rebuke you for little words and feelings or for wasting your time*, over which other Christians never seem distressed. So make up your mind that **God is an infinite Sovereign, and has a right to do as He pleases with His own**, and *He may not explain to you a thousand things which puzzle your reason in His dealings with you*. He may take you at your word and if you absolutely sell yourself to be His slave, He will wrap you up in a jealous love and *let other people say and do many things which He will not let you say or do*.

“Settle it forever that you are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit, and that *He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, or chaining your hand, or closing your eyes, in ways that He does not deal with others*. Now **when you are so possessed with the Living God, that you are in your secret heart pleased and delighted over the peculiar, private, jealous guardianship of the Holy Spirit over your life, you will have found the vestibule of Heaven.**”

Flame of God

By Amy Carmichael

From prayer that asks that I may be
Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee,
From fearing when I should aspire,
From faltering when I should climb higher
From silken self, O Captain, free
Thy soldier who would follow Thee.

From subtle love of softening things,
From easy choices, weakenings,
(Not *thus* are spirits fortified,
Not *this way* went the Crucified)
From all that dims Thy Calvary
O Lamb of God, deliver me.

Give me the love that leads the way,
The faith that nothing can dismay
The hope no disappointments tire,
The passion that will burn like fire;
Let me not sink to be a clod;
Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God

“In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. ⁸ Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.” Hebrews 5:7,8