

Devotional Thoughts :: More Love to Thee ~ Extreme Devotion

More Love to Thee ~ Extreme Devotion, on: 2009/4/18 11:50

The young, brown-eyed girl looked up at her mother. What would her mom decide?

Earlier that morning, the young girl's mother, their pastor, and twenty-six others in her North Korean village of GokSan were bound and taken before a screaming crowd of Communists.

One of the guards ordered Pastor Kim and the other Christians, "Deny Christ, or you will die." The words chilled her. How could they ask her to deny Jesus? She knew in her heart he was real. They all quietly refused.

Then the Communist guard shouted directly at the adult Christians, "Deny Christ, or we will hang your children." The young girl looked up at her mother. She gripped her hand knowing how much her mom loved her. Her mother then leaned down. With confidence and peace she whispered, "Today, my love, I will see you in heaven."

All of the children were hanged.

The remaining believers were then brought out onto the pavement and forced to lie down in front of a large steamroller. The Communists gave them one last chance. "Deny this Jesus or you will be crushed." The Christians had already given up their children; there was no turning back.

As the driver started the heavy piece of equipment, the singing from the villagers started softly. "More love, O Christ, to thee, more love to thee."

More. It's what God gave when he sent his Son. More. It's what Jesus gave when he was crucified. More. It's what believers give simply out of love for Christ. They want to give more to the One who gave so much to them. In a worldly age that values giving only what one must to get by, believers set a new standard. "More love to thee" is more than just words in a traditional hymnal. It's a lifestyle without limit. Each day is a path of discovering how to give more love to Jesus Christ. For some believers, this path has led to their death. For others, "more love to thee" has meant financial sacrifice. What does "more love to thee" mean to your everyday life?

Re: More Love to Thee ~ Extreme Devotion - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2009/4/18 12:35

Powerful.

For the benefit of those who are not familiar with the song "More Love to Thee" I am printing it here:

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek, give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be: More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Let sorrow do its work, come grief or pain;
Sweet are Thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
When they can sing with me: More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry my heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be: More love, O Christ to Thee;

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More love to Thee, more love to Thee!

For many years I refused to sing verse three when it was sung in our church. I do not like sorrow, never did although I am familiar with its purifying effects on the Believer. Reckon I think that if God thinks I need it, He will send it, I am not going to have to ask for it ("Lead us not into temptation.."). Anyhow, good song...

Thanks! Joy, for posting this story...

ginnyrose

Re: More Love to Thee ~ Extreme Devotion, on: 2009/4/18 17:57

Thank you for posting this.

Quote:

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Re: - posted by broclint (), on: 2009/4/18 18:34

Thanks indeed Joy for this... makes all our trivial postulating seem so pointless!

Clint