

Folio Thirty

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Either : Or ¹

Our SPIRIT

Is capable of—

EITHER closing in upon itself

— As it were, endlessly —

Forever shrinking into a bell

Of intensifying energy

... Impenetrably self-absorbed,

Yet, hateful of itself :

Becoming wholly unconnected to others,

And ultimately useless :

In a word, dehumanized.

Or, opening up, limitless,

Not, by way of extension,

Nor, by way of intensity,

But by way of SURRENDER

— Into a selfless heaven of being,

Forever opening, as a love-resource-for-others

... Becoming more and more free,

And so, more and more open,

And thus, more and more transparent

... With the energy of love,

Endlessly available to others.

1 Poem 580, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, May 2004.

Spirit, Make Ready My Heart ¹

Spirit, make ready my heart, for today's

Eucharistic Sacrifice

In Jesus.

Settle my will deeply, deeply within HIS,

To offer His Sacrifice – AS He does :

Eternally submissive in spirit,

Empty of sin and self,

Holy and pure of heart,

Lamb-like for others,

Inclusive of all,

Full of love,

Full of thanks

... All for Your Glory, Abba

Holy ! Holy ! Holy !

¹ Poem 581, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, May 2004.

NOTE : I use this prayer, as a preparation for Eucharist – author.

Giving First ¹

Faith is love, as trusting

Hope is love, as longing

Love is love, as giving

... and receiving.

In giving FIRST, we empty ourselves,

And, with God's deepening grace, WHOLE-HEARTEDLY so

... So as to become CAPABLE

Of receiving God's Gift of Himself!

1 Poem 582, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, May 2004.

Accompanied by Jesus ¹

*Jesus not only invites us
Into His own intimate experience of Abba,
But accompanies us,
Drawing us to co-experience His very own
Experience of Abba !*

*In a communion of hearts
WE enter the Eternal Moment
Of Abba's self-surrender to Jesus
– Spirits wedded together
Radiating ALL we receive !
Thus Abba is ALIVE in us,
Loving all.*

1 Poem 583, of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, May 2004.

Persons of Wonder ¹

*All Christ-like people,
As Temples of the All Holy,
... Sacred heart spaces, communion spaces,
Suffused with God's Presence ...
Need to reverence each other,
As persons of wonder !*

Why ?

*Because THEIR VERY PERSONS, TOGETHER,
Are the epicentre of God's Glory-Cloud
– The place where Father, Son and Spirit
Live out Their wondrous Life of Love !*

All need, particularly, to take care –

Lest, either our words

DESECRATE anyone or anything,

Or, our behaviour

DOES SACRILEGE to ourselves or others

*... For God CHOOSES to make us His hallowed home,
And we are glorious sanctuaries of His Presence !*

¹ Poem 584, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, June 2004.

Holding Us to His Heart ¹

Be daring
And absolutely fearless of any obstacle,
And, with the spontaneous abandonment
Of little children ...
Delight in Abba's fatherly goodness
– Knowing we ALL
Are held within His arms
So, when life becomes 'all too much',
We know He'll hold us to His heart.

1 Poem 585, Year 6 if Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, June 2004.

God's Word ¹

*God's Word calls us forth, into being,
God's Word calls forth God's Love, for us,
God's Word calls forth our love, for God.*

*God's Word calls back to God, in the cry of 'lost ones',
God's Word calls back, from within our hearts,
God's Word calls back, in Christ ... Our Prayer.*

*God's Word calls us to respond, as family ...
 To serve Christ AS brother and sister ;
God's Word calls us to commune, in the Spirit ...
 To be enveloped by Abba there !*

1 Poem 586, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, June 2004.

Our Reality ¹

*We know, and often know too well,
What it means to be accepted by 'the world',
Where life is not animating and fruitful
... Indeed, there's no REAL life at all ...
But a deadening of spirit !*

*O Abba, the Wondrous Reality in our depths,
We truly thank You for revealing
This REALITY, through the love of Jesus
Gracing us ... enabling us to move
From 'a shadow-life' in this world,
To REAL life
In You*

*IN Your relationship to Jesus, our brother,
... And so realize our destiny :
To be fully alive to the REALITY of Your Triune Fellowship.*

¹ Poem 587, Year 6 Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

Joy ¹

Joy is God alive in our personality
Joy is the gift of the Presence of God
Joy is the fruit of the Presence of God
Joy, specifically, radiates the Presence of God
Joy maintains us in the Presence of God
Joy leads us back into the Presence of God
Joy calls forth others into the Presence of God
Joy's purpose, focus, and end is God's Presence.

¹ Poem 588, Year 6 Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

Your Tender Limitless Love ¹

*Abba, in Your tender, limitless Love,
Raise us all, TOGETHER,
In Your Beloved Jesus,
Radiating His Spirit TO EACH OTHER!
Truly, we are Children of Your Love –
You made us : we belong to You ... AS CREATURES with GOD!
You adopt us : we belong to You ... AS GOD with GOD, in Christ !*

¹ Poem 589, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

Yahweh's Gifts without Measure ¹

Yahweh

Gifts, without measure,

Flow from Your goodness ...

To bring us Your peace.

Our life is Your gift ...

Guide our life's journey,

For only Your Love

Makes us whole.

Keep us strong

In Your love.

Amen.

¹ Poem 590, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

O Abba, Overshadow Me ¹

O Abba, overshadow me with Your Holy Spirit

... To remove all distraction, self-indulgent day-dreaming, and lukewarmness

Within me.

May Your Spirit MAKE —

The eyes of my heart GAZE ON YOU,

The ears of my heart LISTEN TO YOU,

The tongue of my heart MURMUR ITS LOVE FOR You

So as to still my spirit ...

As I examine my heart in Your Presence.

Closing the Circle of Love ¹

Eucharistically,
In living for each other AS Christ,
We are bread and wine to each other
... To be TRANSFORMED BY LOVE,
Into Christ's Body and vivifying Blood.
We are to keep nothing for ourselves,
But, simply, to continue nourishing others,
To nurture their spirits lavishly,
– Sharing ALL we have received FROM THEM, in Christ
... In so doing, closing the circle of love.

¹ Poem 592, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

Our Emptiness for God ¹

Faith is –

Our trusting,

Confident,

Yearning

Emptiness

For God !

¹ Poem 593, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

Awaiting Easter's Dawn ¹

*Abba, take my heart ...
And with it – love WHOEVER You wish !
And love them ... in the way You desire !
In embracing them with my humanity,
Your delight will be mine !*

*When You love, Abba,
You pour out the completeness of Your Being,
Whole-heartedly.
For our love, to truly mirror Yours,
Our only response
Is whole hearted surrender
To You
... Leaving only a yearning emptiness,
Fondly traced with the likeness
Of Your Beloved
... Awaiting Easter's Dawn.*

1 Poem 594, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Taringa Community Brisbane, Aug 2004.

A Praying Sacrificial Heart ¹

*Abba, You put into my hands ...
A constant stream of the most personal gifts
To relay to others.
You entrust my praying heart
With being OPEN-HEARTED, for others, in Your Presence
—With a ministry far beyond my human abilities or vision.*

*Abba, to know that I am Your delight, and Your heart's desire ...
And to sense how tenderly You abide within my heart ...
Overwhelms me !
I abandon myself to You, O Living Paradise !
I call upon You, Heart of my heart :
Turn me into a mirror of Your love ... for Your People
— In Jesus, Your Beloved !*

*Abba, You already soften my heart, to love my adversaries ;
You give me a hunger for silence ...
So I can know the power of praying, in Christ Jesus ;
You wondrously open my heart to all
... To be a sacrificial heart for them,
So as to have my life poured out, with Jesus
—For those who don't pray,
— And for those who won't pray.*

This NEED is endless ... truly open-ended :
Abba, without Your persistence, Your power, Your Presence,
I would be but a shell of a heart !
I need always to rely on Jesus Ascended ...
To be ever on the point of entering the Eternity of Your Embrace .
With him, I need to “pray all the time” ²
... “Praying in the Spirit on every possible occasion.” ³
Such praying is a holocaust of my own interests,
And is impossible
—Unless Your Beloved cradles my heart
Within HIS praying heart.

1 Poem 595, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, Sep 2004.

NOTE : In September of 2004, I RETURNED to my Community at Clayfield, with the house now re-built ... from Taringa.

2 Eph 6:18.

3 IBID.

Utter Intimacy ¹

*We, the Children of Your Love, Abba,
Can know something of Your Kingdom, NOW,
At home in our hearts.*

*This is because it STANDS OUT:
Like a precious pearl among imitation trinkets,
Like salt in the midst of blandness,
Like a mustard seedling burgeoning into a flowering tree,
Like a light beaming in the darkness,
Like a Presence that transcends all we know !*

*Paintings cannot depict the Kingdom's essence,
Words cannot capture its uniqueness !
Only Your Spirit, Abba, can imprint upon our spirit
Something of its reality and wonder !
Only Your Spirit can bring ALIVE, within us,
Its utter intimacy !*

¹ Poem 596, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, Sep 2004.

Into Each Fellowship of Hearts ¹

*Our spirits
Need always to be
Transparently OPEN ...
Inviting Christ's Inclusive Spirit
To enter, THROUGH us,
Into each of our relationships,
Into all our communities
– Into each fellowship of hearts –
To suffuse each with's Christ's Identity.
Only thus can 'THEY-WE', all become
Who we truly are together
– The Body of Christ
... Jesus' divinely-human Presence
In this world.*

¹ Poem 597, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, Sep 2004.

Prophets of Calvary's Love ¹

*Abba,
Through Your eager Word,
Allow Your Spirit, into our inner silence,
To anoint us with Christ's Easter longing ...
That we may gaze on Your Face
– Wholly reflective of Your Beloved's, on Calvary –
And so become prophets of the love
We experience there.*

¹ Poem 598, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, Sep 2004.

The Deeper Movements of Jesus's Heart ¹

Abba,
Let me share in the deeper movements
Of Jesus' heart
– Through Your Spirit moving within me,
To infuse Christ's identity within me ...
Ever more intimately.

Thank You, Abba,
For the gift of each person in my life,
And the freeing presence of the Ascended Jesus within each
– Both freeing their personality,
And ...my own, through them.

In the light of these PERSONALIZED graces, Abba,
Let me especially trust
... In Your timing,
... The numerous signs You give me,
... And Your Fatherly faithfulness.

¹ Poem 599, Year 6 of Prayer Ministry, Clayfield Community Brisbane, Sep 2004.