Dearly Beloved

Abba's Child – B. Mannning

But when the night is bad, and my nerves are shattered and infinity, speaks, when God Almighty shares through his son, the depth of his feelings for me, when his love flashes into my soul, and when I am overtaken by mystery, it is KAIROS, the decisive inbreaking of God in this saving moment of my personal history. No one can speak for me. Alone, I face a momentous decision. Shivering in the rags of my winter years, either I escape into skepticism and intellectualism, or with radical amazement, I surrender in faith to the truth of my belovedness.



Good News, YOU ARE

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY

Dearly Beloved

The Christian life is the life of belovedness, there is nothing to add to it and there is nothing beyond it. We surrender to the truth that we are forever safe, we are forever accepted, we are forever acceptable, we are forever immersed in the spirit of adoption by which we cry ABBA, Father, we are forever the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus and we will always have a future and a hope because he will never leave us or forsake us.



It finally dawns on us that our existence is completely based on and nourished in every way by <u>nothing</u> except His all encompassing love for us, <u>and is not connected</u> <u>in even the slightest way to even a shred of our worthiness.</u> "Nothing in my hands I bring. Only to the cross I cling"

Of course, This is patently unbelievable and totally and completely beyond our understanding. It simply makes no sense to our mind that has been programmed by the world and there is no room in the paradigm of our daily life that prepares us to live in this divine dimension.

So It Shall Ever Be

So, the greatest step of faith, and the most courageous act of absolute and humble surrender, is to live every day with our hope firmly fixed to this truth even though our brains are screaming at us that this is absolute foolish insanity. And then do it again day after day after day until eventually it seems a little less insane and gradually more and more beautifully amazing, and we eventually reach a point where our hearts are filled with nothing but joy and gratitude, and that begins to crowd out all of the lies and fear until we find our rest exclusively and permanently in him and the truth that we are his beloved and so it shall ever he.



Just as the Father has loved me, I have also loved you; abide in my love

Good News, YOU ARE

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY



Step one is to surrender to our belovedness

1 john 3, Ephesians 3:14-20

Purpose is to then – out of that fullness of joy in recognizing how loved, how beloved, how valued and how pleasing we are to him – begin to see those around us as beloved, and love them that way as well

Until Christ is formed in us