

Come to me all you who labour and are over burdened

It can often come as something of a surprise, to me and a great many people, that the world, circumstance and events are not dependent upon what I do.

What I do, is best understood with humility

What I am, is best understood with the liberation of humility

What I shall be is best understood with the hope of humility

A humility which is possible only with faith.

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If spoiled many a good story. If I had been born with better eye ball coordination I could well have played football for Manchester United. If I had not suffered from dyslexia I might have got through my studies so much easier. If Roman Catholic priesthood had not involved celibacy I might now be married to a beautifully voiced, supportive wife. If I had not been prone to a period of depression I might not have suffered. If a good friend of mine only read out the correct numbers I might be rich.

If spoiled many a good story. I am what I am. The circumstances are what they are. The situation I find myself in is a reality. It is from this real situation that God calls me. Not to be what I believe I should, or want to be. But to be me. To do my best. To accept the challenge, as is.

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How spoiled many a good story. How are we ever going to get out of this COVID mess? How ever am I going to manage with the money that I have. How are the buildings we have invested in going to justify the expense. How can I keep up my health as my years grow ever longer? How will my family manage with things beyond my control?

How spoiled many a good story. It is what it is. The circumstances are what they are. The situation I find myself in is a reality. It is in this situation that God calls me to take responsibility. Not necessarily how I want it to be. God calls me to be me. To do my best. To accept the challenge, as is.

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When spoiled many a good story. When will Burnley win the premiership title? When will I ever get this job finished? When can I be well enough to do what I never achieved when I was fit enough? When will they stop arguing? When will I ever find peace?

When spoiled many a good story. It is what it is. You are living in today not tomorrow. Today is a reality, tomorrow merely a possibility. It is now, today that God calls me to act. Not when I decide I am ready. God calls me as I am to do my best. To accept the challenge, as is.

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The fact is that God accepts me as I am

Not as I may want to be

Humility will allow me to accept the divine judgement

To learn to love the self that God loves.

To learn to love myself, as God loves me

Then no longer overburdened with foolish anxieties, or pointless expectations

I may take up the call of Christ

And live this life to the full.

Ironically

with such freedom

I will achieve so much more.