



SAFE HARBOR

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As part of my daily reading, I have been going through the Book of Proverbs. As always, I find myself discovering or even rediscovering truths that make an impact on life. In saying this I might suggest that you also look at the wisdom the writer imparts. *“The fear (reverence and respect) of Adonai is the beginning of knowledge. And the knowledge of the Holy One insight.”* For wisdom and knowledge only begins when one knows and understands the Creator. It is not found in fear and dread as many associate the term fear with. The Hebrew concept carries with it the ideas of understanding, appreciation and respect.

It is understanding that God is the very creator, source of all life and the power behind the universe. As such all humanity pales in comparison to Him. It is also an understanding that as the *King of His Creation* (borrowing a term from Erich Sauer) all humanity was meant to serve Him in a unique partnership based on faith and love. This understanding is contrary to the lie of the Serpent, “You shall be like God, knowing good and evil”. This same lie has passed down through generations where belief has clouded the vision of the Almighty behind the veil of sin.

So, the question at hand is “How do you approach God?” Or rather “How should one approach the Throne of Grace?”.

Our approach to throne of Grace should be boldly as a child to a loving father. We should come to converse and listen and not a fearful beggars. We should be confidence that our Father knows us even better than we know ourselves. As He walked in the Garden with Adam and Eve so, He wishes to walk with us.

A REFLECTION

Taken from the Devotions of John Donne, XI. Prayer

“O Eternal and most gracious God, who in thy upper house, the heavens, though there be many mansions, yet art alike and equally in every mansion: but here in thy lower house, though thou fillest all, yet are otherwise in some rooms thereof than in others; otherwise in thy church than in my chamber, and otherwise in the sacraments than in my prayers; so though thou be always present and always working in every room of this thy house, my body, yet I humbly beseech thee to manifest always a more effectual presence in my heart than in the other offices. Into the house

of thine anointed. Disloyal persons, traitors will come; into thy house, the church, hypocrites and idolators will come; in some rooms of this house, my body, temptations will come, infections will come; but be my heart thy bedchamber, O my God and thither let them not enter.”

In My Father’s House IV: The Life An Exposition of John 14-17

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(The following is an except from a series of expositions found on the Cove Fellowship Face Book Page.)

Here we may experience, centuries later, what the disciples would after the Resurrection. It was only after the tearing of the veil and the filling with the Holy Spirit, the Promised Comforter, that they would understand the fulness of life that Jesus promised. Literally the flaming Sword was removed and fellowship with the Great I Am was removed and the presence of God restored.

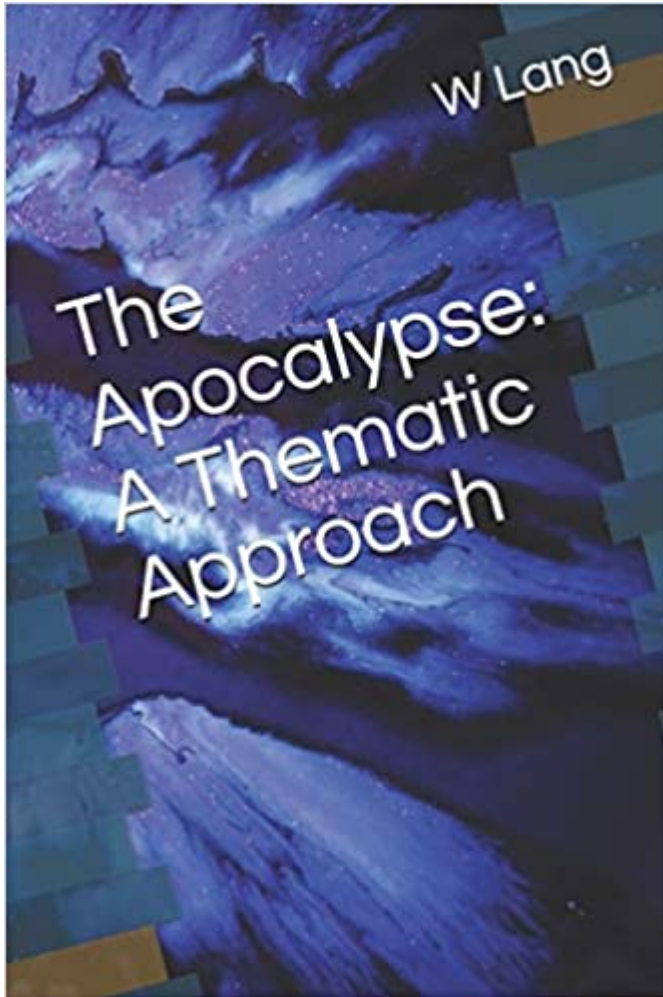
But it is a costly grace, this salvation, for it demands the death of the spirit perverted by sin in order to bring new life in the Spirit. As found in the prayer of St Francis:

***Lord make Me an instrument of Your peace
Where there is hatred let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness joy.
O Divine master grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand.
To be loved. as to love
For it's in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born...
To eternal life.
Amen***

In our world where power, greed, perversion, lawlessness and hatred run rampant even in the Body of Christ, as persons of the Faith our hope can only come from following Jesus by taking our Cross and walking in His footsteps. There is where we find true life.

You can follow Cove Fellowship at www.billlangservices.com , email to covefellowship@verizon.net or on Face Book at **CoveFellowshipMinistries**.

Just released and available on Amazon and Amazon Kindle:



My book of poetry, **Midnight Musings: Thoughts from a Restless Mind**, is also available on Amazon and also Amazon Kindle. Your patronage and thoughts would be appreciated.