It’s part of the human condition when life gets overwhelming, we often long for an escape. In moments of suffering or stress, many of us imagine how peaceful life would be if we could just fly away, free from burdens and responsibilities. We fantasize about becoming something other than human perhaps a bird, soaring above it all and finding rest in a place far away from people and pain.

This very sentiment was echoed by David during one of the darkest seasons of his life. While fleeing for his life from King Saul, hiding in caves and wilderness, David poured out his heart to God with raw emotion:

Psalm 55:5–8 (ESV):

> “Fear and trembling come upon me, and horror overwhelms me.
> And I say, ‘Oh, that I had wings like a dove!
> I would fly away and be at rest;
> yes, I would wander far away;
> I would lodge in the wilderness;

> I would hurry to find a shelter from the raging wind and tempest.’”

David didn’t want to face the chaos around him. He longed to escape. Yet God didn’t grant him wings and He hasn’t given them to us either.

Why? Because we were not created to run from life’s trials. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible teaches that God’s people are called not to *escape* the world, but to *endure* in it. Sanctification doesn’t come from isolation it comes from faithfully walking with God in the midst of suffering, opposition, and tension.

Jesus Himself affirmed this in His prayer to the Father shortly before His crucifixion. Speaking of His disciples, He said:

John 17:15 (ESV):

> “I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.”

Christ doesn’t pray for our removal from difficulty, but for our protection through it. That’s the gospel pattern: God doesn’t always calm the storm, but He walks with us in it.

Sometimes, God even uses the very people who oppose us to accomplish His purposes. He provides for us right in the presence of those who dislike us not to humiliate them, but to display His faithfulness to His children.

Psalm 23:5 (ESV):

> “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
> you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”

This is divine sovereignty at work. God doesn’t remove every thorn from our side, but He transforms hardship into holy ground. He builds our character through trials (Romans 5:3–4), teaches us to rely on His strength (2 Corinthians 12:9), and draws us closer to Him through suffering (Philippians 3:10).

So, fellow believer, stop hoping for total separation from life’s challenges or painful people. That’s not the life we’ve been called to. We haven’t been promised a life of peace through *escape*, but peace *in Christ* who is with us in the midst of it all.

Remember: God has not given us wings like doves to flee from our troubles. Instead, He has given us His Spirit to stand strong in them.

Shalom.

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