

Within The Veil

A while back when I was in the middle of a really rough time financially, I got tempted to think that "the grass was greener" somewhere else. I began to compare myself with ungodly members of my community and to wonder if I'd made a good decision in choosing to serve the Lord and live for him -- because it wasn't very "profitable." I envied the wicked, who seemed to "have it all." They could put themselves first without accountability. They could have fun and not worry about their neighbor or be burdened by responsibility. That is when the Lord took me to Psalm 73:3-17

"For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked
They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.
Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish.
Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.
Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.
For all the day long have I been plagued, and chastened every morning.
If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.
When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me;
Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end. "

In the sanctuary . . . in the sweet presence of God, I finally realized that the ungodly will be forever excluded from the presence of God.

Was I really saying in my rantings about my situation "for love of comfort in this world I was willing to give up being in the presence of God now and forever!"

Whoa! I really didn't mean that!

Think of the person in this life that you love the most in all the world -- and then think about the possibility of never being able to see that person again. Never hear their voice. Never feel their touch. EVER! Does your stomach ache? Do you tear up just thinking about it? That is how it is with Jesus.

How could I ever have even considered putting a price on hearing His voice! For what would I trade the ability to hear the song of the Lord?

With a more eternal perspective, now I say with the Sweet Psalmist of Israel, "One thing have I desired of the Lord, that which I will seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple." (Ps. 27:4KJV)

I envied the wicked until I understood their end -- separation from God, the beloved.

"Within the Veil" refers to the Old Testament scriptures where the priest was allowed to go into the Holy of Holies only once a year to offer the blood of the sacrifice for the sins of the entire nation of Israel.

Only one person, one time a year could go stand before the presence of God which literally dwelled in the Temple. Only one time, once a year, someone could be in God's presence.

At the death of Christ, the veil in the temple was torn in two. Now we have access to the presence of God 24/7! But how are we like the priest of old? Can others tell we have been in the presence of God? The priests that went into the Holy of Holies smelled difference because of the incense. How are we different for being in His presence? And are we going into His presence on a regular basis and not just once a year? May you experience His presence and the reality of the subject of this song.

This song is dedicated to the choir and the 151st musicians. At first they struggled with singing such close harmonies in five and six parts. And my prayer for them is this, "Let us pray that it is only in the music that we find dissonance." They are the most precious people I know, let God continue his blessings on their lives and music. Until we are all members of "the unseen choir" may He keep us in His care. I thank them again for their sacrifice of time and talent for the Lord.

Due to the nature of the music, please write me (Lora) for the sheet music. (Vocal parts are written out.) It is two pages total. You can buy it for \$1 each, or for a \$25 fee, you can buy the rights to copy it for your church musicians for as long as your church exists. I send you a master and you copy it guilt-free for your musicians.

Within The Veil
By Lora L. Crombez
 © 1983

The voice of our beloved -
 Behold He calleth Wooing
 us into His presence.

There is such beauty there.
 His fragrance fills the air.
 No sweetness can compare
 With what lies within the veil.

Within the veil we see His glory.
 But greater still, His love and mercy.

For there are we, in Him complete,
 standing as priest, Within, yes, within the veil.
 Within the veil we see His glory.
 But greater still, His love and mercy.

For there are we, in Him complete,
 standing as priest, Within, yes, within the veil.