

Simple Song of Freedom – Bobby Darin

Come and sing a simple song of freedom;
Sing it like you've never sung before,
And let it fill the air, tell the people everywhere,
We, the people here, don't want a war.

Hey there, Mister Black Man, can you hear me?
I don't want your diamonds or your game,
I just want to be, someone known to you as me,
And I will bet my life you want the same.

Seven hundred million are you listening?
Most of what you read is made of lies,
But speaking one to one, ain't it everybody's sun,
To wake to in the morning when we rise?

Now, Brother Solzhenitsyn, are you busy?
If not won't you drop this friend a line?
Tell me if the man, who is plowing up your land,
Has got the war machine upon his mind.

Now no doubt some folks enjoy doin' battle,
Like presidents, prime ministers or kings,
So lets all build them shelves
where they can fight it out among themselves,
And leave the people be who love to sing.

Prayer Leader:

Ron Konkoly

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AIN'T IT EVERYONE'S SUN?



Our prayer is characterized by silence ~

Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.

God is present in all our lives.

God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.

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To Ponder:

Richard Rohr, *The Importance of Experience*

The two wheels of Scripture and Tradition can be seen as sources of outer authority, while our *personal experience* leads to our inner authority. I am convinced we need and can have both. Only when inner and outer authority come together do we have true spiritual wisdom. Christianity in most of its history has largely relied upon outer authority. But we must now be honest about the value of inner experience, which of course was at work all the time but was not given credence.

I am increasingly convinced that the word “prayer,” which has become a functional and pious thing for believers to do, was meant to be a descriptor and an invitation to inner experience. When spiritual teachers invite us to “pray,” they are in effect saying, “Go inside and know for yourself!” We have for too long insisted on outer authority alone, without any teaching of prayer, inner journey, and maturing consciousness. The results for the world and for religion have been disastrous.



Reading:

Sri Chinmoy, *Songs of the Soul*

War and Peace

Humanity invents war.
Humanity discovers peace.

Humanity invents war from without.
Humanity discovers peace from within.

War humanity throws.
Peace humanity sows,

The smile of war is the flood of human blood.
The smile of peace is the love, below and above.

War forgets peace.
Peace forgives war.

Our vital passions want war.
Our psychic emotions desire peace.

War is the death of the life human.
Peace is the birth of the Life Divine.

Sharing. . .

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...