



FRANCES J. ROBERTS



Come Away My
Beloved...
and Pray

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Preface

Come Away, My Beloved was forged in the crucible of life. In the midst of each day's joys and trials has come the ministering Spirit of the heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, bringing words of encouragement, hope, comfort, and conviction.

To gain the maximum blessing from this book, read it carefully and prayerfully, a little at a time, searching always for the special treasure of truth for your own need. He who knows you by name and understands your deepest longings will speak to your heart from these pages, shutting out the world around you and bringing you into fellowship with Himself.

Whether you are just beginning your Christian walk or have grown into a fuller stature in Christ, you will be equally challenged and helped. Some books give instruction for Christian living; others inspire to greater devotion. *Come Away, My Beloved* will do both as you open your soul to its living message.

With this book go many prayers that God will enrich every life it touches. Surely we are all bound together in one family in Christ through the bonds of His Holy Spirit.

—FJR

*This book is dedicated to the glory of God
and to all who desire a closer walk with Him.*

The Call of Love

O My beloved, abide under the shelter of the lattice—for I have betrothed you to Myself, and though you are sometimes indifferent toward Me, My love for you is at all times as a flame of fire. My ardor never cools. My longing for your love and affection is deep and constant.

Tarry not for an opportunity to have more time to be alone with Me. Take it, though you leave the tasks at hand. Nothing will suffer. Things are of less importance than you think. Our time together is like a garden full of flowers, whereas the time you give to things is as a field full of stubble.

I love you, and if you can always, as it were, feel My pulse beat, you will receive insight that will give you sustaining strength. I bore your sins, and I wish to carry your burdens. You may take the gift of a light and merry heart, for My love dispels all fear and is a cure for every ill. Lay your head upon My breast and lose yourself in Me. You will experience resurrection life and peace; the joy of the Lord will become your strength; and wells of salvation will be opened within you (Song of Solomon 2:9-13).



*Wisdom and knowledge will be the stability of your times,
and the strength of salvation.*

ISAIAH 33:6

The Need for Greater Faith

O child, do not expect the trials to be lighter than in the past. Why should you think the tests would be less severe? I test all things, and there are areas of your life that as yet I have not touched. Do not look for respite. The days ahead may call for greater endurance and more robust faith than you ever needed before. Welcome this, for you must surely know how precious are the lessons learned through such experiences. Even if you are unable to fully anticipate them with joy, you can certainly gain an appropriate appreciation of them in retrospect.

Apply your heart to learn wisdom. This goal transcends every other aim, and any other good that comes out of a pressure period is an added blessing in excess.

Seek Me above all else.



If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

JAMES 1:5

Faith and Action

My promises are of no avail to you except as you apply and appropriate them by faith. In your daily walk, you shall be victorious only to the degree that you trust Me. I can help you only as you ask. I will meet you at every point where you put action alongside your prayers. Only as you *walk* will the waters of adversity be parted before you. Overburdened as the world is with trouble and sickness, I need those who have proved My sufficiency in everyday, personal experience to lead the suffering to the fountains of life. I need those who have found Me as burden-bearer to help bring deliverance to the oppressed.

Never begrudge time given to chronic complainers, but recognize in each encounter the opportunity to speak a word that may lead to their liberation. No case is too hard for Me.



“According to your faith let it be to you.”

MATTHEW 9:29

Guidance

My child, hear My voice, and give no heed to the voice of the stranger. My paths are straight, and they are narrow, but you shall have no difficulty in finding them if you watch Me. I am guiding you. You need not look to people for direction. You may learn much by fellowship with the saints, but never allow any to take the role that is rightfully Mine—to direct your steps. As it is written, “The steps of a good man are *ordered by the Lord*”—not by the preacher, not by some Christian worker, but by the Lord.

Trust Me to do it, and give Me the time and the opportunity to do it. Be not hasty, and lean not upon your own intelligence.

Rest in Me. I shall bring to pass My perfect will in your life as you believe and live in faith.



The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD.

PSALM 37:23

On the Waters of Sorrow

O child, I am coming to you walking on the waters of the sorrows of your life; yes, above the sounds of the storm you shall hear My voice call your name.

You are never alone, for I am at your right hand. Never despair, for I am watching over and caring for you. *Be not anxious.* What seems to you to be at present a difficult situation is all part of My planning, and I am working out the details of circumstances so that I may bless you and reveal Myself to you in a new way.

As I have opened your eyes to see, so shall I open your ears to hear, and you shall come to know Me even as Moses did, yes, in a face-to-face relationship. For I will remove the veil that separates Me from you, and you will know Me as your dearest Friend and as your truest Comforter.

No darkness will hide the shining of My face, for I shall be to you as a bright star in the night sky. Never let your faith waver. Reach out your hand, and you shall touch the hem of My garment.



But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

I CORINTHIANS 2:9

The Burden-Bearer

My child, do not share your burdens with all who come to you professing concern. I, Myself, am the great burden-bearer. You need not look to another. I will lead you and guide you in wisdom from above. All things will be as I plan them, if you allow Me the freedom to shape circumstances and lead you to the right decisions.

I am merciful and kind. I love you beyond measure. I purpose to do you good; and I will bring to you those who can *truly* help, if you leave all in My hands.

I want you to prosper and be in health. I want you to know Me more intimately. If difficulties come, it is by My order and for your benefit. Human beings would say you have trouble: I would say you have a test.



He might test you, to do you good in the end.

DEUTERONOMY 8:16

Safety in God's Will

My will is not a place, but a condition. Do not ask Me *where* and *when*, but ask Me *how*. You will discover blessing in every place, and any place, if your spirit is in tune with Me. No place or time is more hallowed than another when you are truly in love with Me.

I direct every motion of your life, as the ocean bears a ship. Your will and intelligence may be at the helm, but divine providence and sovereignty are stronger forces. You can trust Me, knowing that any pressure I bring to bear upon your life is initiated by My love, and I will not do even this except as you are willing and desire.

Many a ship has sailed from port to port with no interference from Me, because Strong Will has been at the wheel. Multitudes of pleasure cruises go merrily on their ways, untouched by the power of My hand.

But you have put your life into My keeping, and because you are depending on Me for guidance and direction, I shall give it.

Move on steadily, and know that the waters that carry you are the waters of My love and My kindness, and I will keep you on the right course.



If anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.

JOHN 9:31

Release Your Grief

My child, lean your head upon Me. I know well your weariness, and every burden I would lift. Never bury your griefs, but offer them up to Me. You will relieve your soul of much strain if you can lay every care in My hand. Never cling to any trouble, hoping to resolve it yourself, but turn it over to Me. In doing so, you will free Me to work it out.



Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

MATTHEW 11:29

Ministering Angels

O My soul, be anxious for nothing. It is enough that your Father loves you. Loving you, He takes thought of your smallest need. Surely He will not allow you to be put to shame, and He will not be unconcerned when you are in any kind of need.

Always turn to Him before you look to any other source of assistance. It is His love that will light your path, so that you may be guided in finding other help. Surely He has given you ministering angels, who may sometimes come to you in the form of your friends. Accept their help as from God, and your blessing will be doubled. You may also, in turn, be used in a similar manner to bless others.

Look not only to the physical for the transmission of spiritual energy. Divine life can flow out to others through your thoughts, the same as through your hands. Use My power, and let it flow out in any form I choose, as I direct and guide you. You may multiply your ministry a hundredfold in this way. Be not limited by your present knowledge, but move in and learn more from Me.



*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by
prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving,
let your requests be made known to God.*

PHILIPPIANS 4:6

The Vineyard of Prayer

O My child, the days are heavy with burdens, burdens that need to be borne upon the shoulders of faithful prayer warriors. Where are those who are willing to make themselves available to the Spirit for this ministry? The planted Word will dry up like carelessly strewn seed if it is not watered with tears of intercession. You cannot in yourself lay this ministry upon your soul, but you *can* make room in your life for time apart with Me; and as you place yourself at the disposal of the Holy Spirit, He will use you as a channel when the needs arise.

Nothing is more needful at this present hour than prayer that draws its power from full operation under the direction and unction of the Holy Spirit.

I am calling My Spirit-filled believers to concentrated labor in this, the vineyard of prayer. Hidden from human eyes, it is wide open to heaven; and the saints in heaven join with you in this operation of God's love.

Other ministries you must carry on alone, but in this you have a mutual fellowship, for those in heaven have also an intercessory ministry for their brothers and sisters yet on earth.

Rejoice to be granted the privilege of so sacred a task. Count it most precious, and guard against the intrusion of distractions. Nothing of all that you can do for Me is more important in My sight. Cherish it and cultivate it. Live in prayer, and you will know a full life of joy and the remuneration of My blessing!



He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

ROMANS 8:27

A Yielded, Believing Vessel

Mine is the wisdom and the honor and the power and the glory and shall be so forever and ever. I make the nations rise and kingdoms fall, but My throne shall be established in Zion and My righteousness throughout all the earth.

I am never defeated, but I am held in abeyance at this present time by human selfishness and willfulness. My justice and My mercy is obstructed by human ignorance and by the lack of faith in even My children.

Be not dismayed nor ill of heart and spirit. Have you not read how I could not do mighty works in their midst because of their unbelief? It is no less true today—and it is not in one place but in many places—yes, even throughout the length and breadth of the land.

Be aware of Me. I can accomplish great things through even one yielded, believing vessel. Remember David, and how I wrought a great victory for the armies of Israel through his courage when all others were paralyzed by fear.

Move on, and never entertain the thought of retreat. Others may actually be going forward on the very path that would be for you a retreat. They are not responsible to give Me the kind of service I ask of you. Keep your eyes on Me, as I have counseled you so many times before.

I have special expeditionary forces, and what if I have called you to join these ranks? Do not look for the company of many others. Much of the way you shall go entirely alone except for My presence.



*But the people who know their God shall
be strong, and carry out great exploits.*

DANIEL 11:32

Cherish My Words

O My children, obey My words. Do not wander in unbelief and darkness, but let the scripture shine as a light upon your path. My Word shall be life to you, for My commandments are given for your health and preservation. They will guard you from folly and guide you away from danger.

Hide My commandments in your heart, and make them the law of your life. Cherish My words, and take not lightly the least of them. I have not given them to bind you, but to bring you into the life of greatest joy and truest liberty.

I have asked you to give, in order that I may bless you more. I have challenged you to pray, so that I may respond and help you. I have asked you to rejoice, in order to keep you from being swallowed up by anxieties. I have asked you to be humble, to protect you from the calamities that fall upon the proud. I have asked you to forgive, in order to make your heart fit to receive My forgiveness. I have asked you not to love the world, for I would have you released from unnecessary entanglements, free to follow Me.

Sanctification is accomplished in no one by accident. Learn My rules, and put them into practice consistently if you desire to see progress in the growth of your soul. Holiness is not a feeling—it is the end product of obedience. Purity is not a gift—it is the result of repentance and serious pursuit of God.



*For You will light my lamp;
the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.*

PSALM 118:28

Comfort in Affliction

O My people, has not My hand fashioned for you many signs and wonders? Have I not ministered to you in miraculous way? How is it you say therefore in your heart, “I will turn again to human strength”? How often have I spoken to you and never failed to keep My word? Will you not, then, trust Me now in this new emergency, even as you have trusted Me in the past?

Your need is greater this time, and so I have made the testing more acute. I strengthen you in the furnace of affliction, and purify your soul in the fires of pain.

Lean hard upon Me, for I bring you through to new victories, and restoration shall follow what seems now to be a wind of destruction.

Hold fast to My hand, and rest in My love, for of this you may be very certain: My love is unaltered; yes, I have you in My own *intensive care*. My concern for you is deeper now than when things are normal.

Draw upon the resources of My grace, and so shall you be equipped to communicate peace and confidence to your dear ones. Heaven rejoices when you go through trials with a singing spirit. Your Father’s heart is cheered when you endure the test and do not question His mercy.

Be like a beacon light. His own glorious radiance shall shine through you, and Christ Himself will be revealed.



*“Then they will seek My face;
in their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”*

HOSEA 5:15

The Blessings of the Pure in Heart

Is not My heart drawn out toward you to bless you? Have I not said that I would shelter and protect you and be your strong support? Yield your whole being to Me. I am your loving Father. I know your need even before it arises. My provisions are not only sure, but also full and overflowing, so that you may confess with the psalmist, "I shall never want." You will see with a vision denied to many, for your heart is pure, and to the pure of heart is given the promise that they shall see God. How much more glorious than to behold the beauty of a thousand sunsets! How much more thrilling than the sight of the fairest faces ever to grace the earth!

Yes, I shall reveal Myself to you, and you shall know Me face-to-face, as Moses did. You shall walk with Me and talk with Me, and I will hold your right hand and be a brother and a friend to you. I shall never leave you, and in the darkness I will be a light for you. Yes, in joy I will be an added comfort, and in sorrow I will be to you the peace that surpasses understanding.

Do not look to people to tell you more about Me. Look to Me directly, for I will reveal Myself to you in a personal way, in ways no other could tell you. I will be as personal and as dear to you as I was to John, the Beloved. I would take you aside as I did Peter, and talk to you of things that concern yourself alone. I am not only the God of congregations, but the God of the individual, and I am as concerned for you as I was for Abraham or Joseph or David.

You are never one of many to Me. You are precious and dear to My heart, yes, even as a very special treasure. For I love you more than you can ever comprehend, and I long to gather you in My embrace and hold you close to My heart. Do not hold Me at arm's length because you have a sense of unworthiness. Have you not read that the redeemed are brought near by the blood of Christ? Your sins are not covered; they are washed away! They are not only forgiven: they are forgotten! Don't hold back My love.

Be as the prodigal when embraced by his father. Though he would have resisted for a moment, he swiftly accepted his father's forgiveness and reciprocated his love and affection.

I, too, would bring you into My house and spread for you a feast of blessings, and place upon you the garment of praise, the ring of relationship, and the sandals of peace. Come, for all things are prepared for you and nothing shall be denied.



*"Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God."*

MATTHEW 5:8

The Healing Power of Joy

Say not within yourself, “Where is God?” for I am within you, yes, even in your heart, and My hand is upon you. You have looked in vain for Me because you have sought to see Me in circumstances and in people, and have said, “I cannot find Him.”

O My child, look to Me directly, and rest your heart in Me. Do so with as little distraction as would be easy to do if you were the only human being in the world and, therefore, would have no one else to look upon and no one else with whom to converse.

Praise Me. This I ask of you in times when it seems indescribably difficult to do so. I ask it of you in love that is stern at this point because I know unequivocally that praise is your only hope for survival.

Distress of soul and grief of heart can only bring on destruction of body. Joy alone is a healer, and you can have it in the darkest hour if you will force your soul to rise to me in worship and adoration. I have not failed you and you have not failed Me. It is only that you have failed yourself—or the disappointment has come on the human plane, not on the divine. Why should you allow any human experience to alter or affect your divine relationship with your Father?

Bring Me your sorrow, and watch for the sunrise of the resurrection. Yes, truly there comes always a resurrection—a morning when hope is reborn and life finds new beginning. Wait for it as tulip bulbs anticipate the spring. The rarest

blooms are enhanced by the coldness of winter. The snow plays her part in producing spring's pageant. But when the blossoms break through, we do not then turn back to thoughts of winter, but instead, we look ahead to the full joys of the coming summer.

So you must do also. Your God is your maker. He is your defender. And He is mighty to save. Yes, He is not only mighty to save from sin, but He is mighty to save from despair, from sorrow, from disappointment, from regret, from remorse, from self-castigation, and from the hot, blinding tears of rebellion against fateful circumstances. He can save you from yourself, and He loves you when you find it hard to love yourself.

Let His peace flow in you like a river, carrying away all the poison of painful memories, and bringing to you a fresh, clear stream of pure life and restoring thoughts.

This is not the end. Press on. The goal line is out ahead, and you may yet be a winner in the race of life.



*"You will be sorrowful,
but your sorrow will be turned into joy."*

JOHN 16:20