The Death That Births True Life
by Nancy McCready

"Not My will, but Yours be done." — Luke 22:42

The path of sonship always passes through death—death to the independent self. Resurrection life does not emerge without the cross. If we long to live as mature sons, we must yield to the death that Jesus Himself embraced: Not my will, but Yours be done.

The world insists that independence is freedom. Scripture shows us that independence from the Father is slavery. The root of all sin is, I want my way apart from Him. But the root of sonship is this: I want the Father, and I want His way. Jesus, the Pattern Son, revealed this in Gethsemane. Though He could have left, though He could have called angels to rescue Him, He yielded instead. His "yes" was costly, but it was real. And in that yieldedness, hell was defeated.

So too for us: self must be crucified so that the life of Christ may flourish in us. This is not weakness—it is the authority of true sonship. Tears may come, not because God forces us, but because we recognize that left to ourselves, we would never choose Him. Yet His life within us awakens a "yes" we could never manufacture.

Let the cross work daily in you. Allow the death of Jesus to silence self and independence so that His life can rise in power. What dies at Gethsemane rises in glory. This is the way of sons.

Scripture Reading:

Luke 22:42
Romans 6:4–11
Galatians 2:20

Wisdom to Remember

"God's means of forming the image of His Son in us is by bringing us through death and into resurrection." — Watchman Nee

"To be a son of God is not to rise in status but to die in self; sonship begins where self-reliance ends." — A.W. Tozer