

THE KING OF THE REFUGEES



Dear listeners, I am happy about the opportunity to share a personal message with you during the next couple of minutes, a message which contains an extraordinary gift for you. This message is first of all directed to those of you who – in search of peace, freedom and security – had to leave their homeland and flee to another continent. Let us start this message with a spiritual song.

The first song: "You are wonderful in your love." By brother Naguib Labib from Egypt.

I want to read to you from the Holy Scriptures about the King of the Refugees. He himself had to flee in search of a secure place. This is written in the gospel of Matthew, in chapter 2, verses 1 to 15:

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over

the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Dear listeners, it seems to me that history is repeating itself. In the story I read, the holy family – that is Joseph, Mary and the child Jesus – had to flee from danger. The imminent threat upon them was Herod, who in fear of losing his throne had decided to have all children killed. That way he wanted to make sure that Jesus would be among them. This is why he asked where Jesus, who would be called the Christ, was to be born.

You are currently experiencing a similar situation. You left your homeland, in which you were born. You left behind family and friends. You left your country with all its holidays which you used to celebrate. Some of you have also lost their income. And many of the young people I have met could not continue with their studies.

This is the life without God.

The first and most important thing you need now is a friend who feels with you and understands your situation. A

friend who has experienced just what you experienced. And I find no better friend but the Lord Jesus Christ, who went the same way and felt what it means to be a refugee. He had to leave His home with His family and go to another country.

We all know very well that everyone who has to leave his homeland and flee to another country faces many difficulties. You have to learn a new language, for example, to be able to live in the new home. You come into a new climate which you are not used to. There is also a new culture around you, which you need to understand in order to live in this new society without problems or misunderstandings. On top of this you have to try and accept new foods. In short, it is a new start in a new place with new challenges. And right here I would like to emphasize that the king who fled went through all of these challenges too. He lived the same life as you do. That is why it is written in the letter to the Hebrews, in chapter 2, verse 18:

Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

He experienced loneliness and He knows what it means to be a stranger. He also underwent injustice, scorn and distress. Yes, it was not easy for Him. That is why He feels with you. He understands your distress and He can help you with the godly love which is in His heart for you.

I am passing this message on to you because I want you to accept Jesus Christ as your personal friend in your life. If you could get to know Him, you would accept Him immediately as master of your life. I do not invite you to come to Christianity, nor to Christians, but to come to Christ himself, personally. In Him you would find rest and peace for your souls in this new country.

I invite you to come to the Jesus of love, who gives absolute security. He is the Giver of all good things, but most of all He is the Savior from the sins in your life. The main reason for our problems is sin – whether committed by unjust governments, unfair laws or the sins in our own life. Yes, sin is the main reason for all kinds of disturbance and restlessness. It is sin which puts an end to a man's life. For it is written in the Bible, in the letter to the Romans, in chapter 6, verse 23:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

You only need to believe what you have heard. Think about it. You have a right to consider this and think for yourself. Remember what happened in your life from your birth until

now. Bear in mind how hard life is without such an honest friend, who is nearer to you than a brother. I invite you to come to this friend, who says himself, in the Gospel of Matthew, in chapter 11, verse 28:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

He invites you to come, regardless of your nationality, your skin color, your language or your religious background. He has come for the entire world, that is why the Bible says, in this wonderful verse from the Gospel of John, in chapter 3, verse 16:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Certainly you are looking for ways to find peace and joy in this new home. That is why you are going to different authorities, to let yourself be helped by the law. And of course, this is your right. But I want to draw your attention to the real and eternal peace and joy, which is the eternal life. Jesus paid for your access to this eternal life with his own blood, spilt on the cross. I wish you God's blessings and mercy in your new home country.

At the end of my message I ask God to heal you from all your fear and all the bad memories you are carrying.

The second song: "How could I forget your love. How could I forget your cross. How could I forget your provision." By brother Nizar Francis from Haifa.

Dear listener, I want to pray to God with you, to ask Him for peace between God and yourself. You can repeat the prayer after me:

My heavenly father, I come to you with all my burden and tiredness and I am sure that you are my place of refuge. I give you my life and ask you for salvation of my sins and for peace in this new home. I pray in Jesus Name. Amen.

If you have a question, please write to the address which is printed on the CD. You can also contact me directly via e-mail, my e-mail address is elia@rnh.de. I would be happy to send you another CD or the Bible as a gift.

I bid you farewell with this beautiful spiritual song and wish all of you blessings from God. May the Lord be with you.

Continuation of the song by Nizar Francis.

