

**DAY 38**

When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. (Acts 16:7)

~~ *Serve the Lord by waiting* ~~

What a strange thing for the Lord to prohibit, for they were going into Bithynia to do Christ's work! And the door was shut before them by Christ's own Spirit.

There have been times when I have experienced the same thing. Sometimes I have been interrupted in what seemed to be quite productive work. And at times, opposition came and forced me to go back, or sickness came and forced me to rest in some isolated place.

During such times, it was difficult for me to leave my work unfinished when I believed it was service done in the power of His Spirit. But I finally remembered that the Spirit requires not only a service of work but also a service of waiting. I came to learn that a place of isolation is often the most useful place of all in this diverse world. Its harvest is more affluent than the seasons when the corn and wine were the most abundant. So I have learned to thank the blessed Holy Spirit that many a beautiful Bithynia had to be left without a visit from me.

Dear Holy Spirit, my desire is still to be led by You. If a door is closed, help me to find a new entrance into Your service. Inspire me with the knowledge that a person may sometimes be called to serve by doing nothing, by staying still, or by waiting. (LC - Sept. 24)

~~~ *Pray* ~~~

Abba Father,

*When I cannot understand my Father's leading,*

*And it seems to be but hard and cruel fate,*

*Still I hear that gentle whisper ever pleading,*

*God is working, God is faithful, ONLY WAIT. (LC) Amen.*