

»My eyes have seen your salvation«



WALTER HABDANK 1973

If I could say that one time, how happy I would be!

Yet: Would I perceive salvation at all?

Who can ever speak something like this?

One who longs for salvation.

One who knows of a promise and believes it.

One who can wait, even if he grows old over it.

One who does not give up in bitterness and frustration.

One who consciously moves in the living spaces of God.

One who praises God for the promise, even if he has not yet experienced the fulfilment.

One who inwardly creates space for the Spirit of God.

One who is able to see the extraordinary, the divine, in ordinary people.

Such a person can recognise the promised salvation in an infant barely six weeks old. And he accepts it: He sees this light with his eyes, wraps his arms around the child and draws him close to his heart.

We have a story for this, for such a person was Simeon:

»Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, 'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.' « (Lk 2, 25-32)

Rosemarie Monnerjahn

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