



## Take Me to the King

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### 1. Taking the Path Less Travelled

- *What do YOU do in distress, at a stand-still, in a stand-off, when frustrated, anxious and when you finally realize your “tank is empty?” – Do you fight, move to flight, or freeze/ice-olate (hide from sight)?*
- *How might we better understand our tendencies to rebellion, resistance, resignation, reluctance and/or artificial resistance techniques and instead become wide-awake to God’s invitation to find the good way, to come to Him who is sufficient for our rest, safe-keeping, peace and transformation?*

**Jeremiah 6: 16:** This is what the LORD says: “**Stand** at the crossroads and **look**; **ask** for the ancient paths, **ask** where the good way is, and **walk in it**, and you will find **rest for your souls**.”

**Matthew 11:28-30:** “**Come** to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **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**. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light.”

### 2. Psalm 4: Psalm of David: Psalm of lament & confidence (often paired with Psalm 3)

<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call to You, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress [2 Cor 4:8, 9]; have mercy on me and hear my prayer. <sup>2</sup>How long will you people turn my glory into shame? [Selah] How long will you love delusions and seek false gods? <sup>3</sup>Know that the **LORD** [Adonai] has set apart His faithful servant for Himself; the **LORD** hears when I call to Him. <sup>4</sup>*Tremble [or stand in awe]* and do not sin [James 1:19, 20]; when you are on your beds, *search* your hearts and *be silent*. [Selah] <sup>5</sup>Offer the sacrifices of the righteous and *trust* in the **LORD**. <sup>6</sup>Many, **LORD**, are asking, “Who will bring us prosperity?” Let the light of Your face shine on us [Numbers 6:24-26]. <sup>7</sup>Fill my heart with joy when their grain and new wine abound. <sup>8</sup>In peace I will lie down and sleep, for You alone, LORD, make me dwell in safety.

In Psalm 4 there is an appeal to the righteous God while in distress (1), while enemies defame (2), but God is apprehended as the only ultimate source of peace and safety (3-8).

### 3. A Modern Psalm: The Voice Experience with Chris Blue

<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=take+me+to+the+king+-+chris+blue&view=detail&mid=87A56380EA03DE3AC09987A56380EA03DE3AC099&FORM=VIRE>

Truth is I'm tired - Options are few - I'm trying to pray - But where are You? I'm all church'd out - Hurt and abused - I can't fake - What's left to do? **Take me to the King** - I don't have much to bring - My heart's torn in pieces - It's my offering. Lay me at the throne - Leave me there alone - To gaze upon Your glory - And sing to You this song - **Please take me to the King**. Truth is it's time - To stop playing these games - We need a word - For the people's pain. So speak right now - Let it fall like rain - Oh, yes, we're desperate - We're chasing after You. No rules, no religion - I've made my decision - To run to You - The Healer that I need. (Songwriter: Kirk Franklin)

**4. Testimony of A.B. Simpson who wrote:** "I prayed a long time to get sanctified, and sometimes I thought I had it. On one occasion I felt something, and I held on with a desperate grip for fear I should lose it, and kept awake the whole night fearing it would go, and, of course, it went with the next sensation and the next mood. Of course, I lost it because I did not **hold on to Him**. I had been taking a little water from the reservoir, when I might have all the time received from Him fullness through the open channels. I went to meetings and heard people speak of joy. I even thought I had the joy, but I did not keep it because I had not **Himself as my joy**. At last He said to me - Oh so tenderly - "My child, just take Me, and let Me be in you the constant supply of all this, Myself." Simpson wrote a hymn that reflected this deepened understanding: **Himself**, the first stanza as follows: Once it was the blessing, Now it is the Lord; Once it was the feeling, Now it is His Word. Once His gifts I wanted, Now the Giver own; Once I sought for healing, **Now Himself alone**.

**5. Take Me To King Jesus: John 12:20-36:** <sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "**we would like to see Jesus.**" <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

*All to Jesus I surrender, All to Him I freely give; I will ever love and trust Him, In His presence daily live. I surrender all, I surrender all. All to Thee, my blessed Saviour, I surrender all. Listen to I **Bowed My Knees**: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc2xGXONv4I> - "Take me to Jesus . . . I want to see Jesus because He is the one who died for me."*

**6. The Essence of Message:** As humans there are various options presented to us as life and circumstances press us to realize that we are designed to be dependent on the Triune God, our Lord and King, for our every need and that self-sufficiency doesn't work. We have a propensity to find and embrace substitutes for Him, all eventually turn out to be unsatisfying and unfulfilling. The Prophets, Psalmists, and others have come to the place where they simply seek Him and His care for them, because He cares for them.