

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 3 17-26



Whoever dwells in the shadow of the Most High and abides under the shadow of the Almighty, Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, my God, in whom I put my trust.'

Psalm 91:1-2

Praising:

O for a heart to praise my God,
a heart from sin set free;
a heart that's cleansed by the
blood
so freely shed for me,
A heart resigned, submissive,
meek,
my dear redeemer's throne;
where only Christ is heard to
speak,
where Jesus reigns alone.

Reading:

Acts 3:17-26

Peter preaches outside the temple

Forthright as he is in apportioning blame for Jesus' death, Peter still addresses the people listening to him as friends. And in spite of what they did to Jesus, Peter is

still ready to honour them with a place in the ancient Hebrew line in which Jesus is successor of Moses as well as David. All that stands in their spiritual way is their readiness to repent and turn to God. Peter also refers to the blessing that awaits those who do respond: they will release what Peter describes as times of refreshing in the presence of the Lord. This must be Peter speaking from personal experience, and it has a clear resonance for Where is your chair? Peter seems to be alluding to a devotional encounter with God that will both revitalise and re-energise those who share in it.

Listening:

Praying:

Draw us closer Lord to the new life you have for us in Christ

- to know our weights lifted, our burdens lightened, our worries eased
- to see shut-downs and dead-ends open up to new opportunity and fresh possibility
- to feel that in the power of your Spirit a new beginning is always there for the taking

Father: clear a space in me I pray, just enough for you to find a home, that I might pass from these fleeting moments of stillness, to a whole new level of acceptance and trust. Amen

Doing:

Tuesday, 12 April 2016