A dove is depicted in profile, facing left, with its wings spread. The dove is rendered in a dark, almost black color, and is surrounded by a vibrant, glowing aura of orange and yellow flames. The background is a dark, textured black, which makes the glowing dove and flames stand out prominently.

When we have the Holy Spirit
we have all that is needed to be
all that God desires us to be.

A.W. Tozer

A Remarkable Gift – John 16:1-17

A Remarkable Gift

- Conversion from Islam in Muslim-Majority Countries to Christianity carries severe risks
 - Converts can face intense persecution, loss of inheritance, forced divorces, loss of child custody, or even imprisonment or death
 - In Western Countries converts often face emotional and social friction with their extended families, who may feel disappointed or betrayed
 - They generally have the legal right to practice their new faith

A Remarkable Gift

- **Luke 14:26 ESV**, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.”
 - Sounds harsh, doesn't it
 - **TLB**, “Anyone who wants to be my follower must love me far more than he does his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters—yes, more than his own life—otherwise he cannot be my disciple.”---Why?
 - Only love for Christ can prepare and protect you through the feelings of isolation, judgement, unprotectedness, rejection

A Remarkable Gift

- Just think of the disciples hearing their Jewish brothers and sisters screaming
 - **Matthew 27:21-23 ESV**, 21 The governor again said to them, “Which of the two do you want me to release for you?” And they said, “Barabbas.” 22 Pilate said to them, “Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?” They all said, “Let him be crucified!” 23 And he said, “Why? What evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more, “Let him be crucified!”
 - Can you see the disciple's faith get smaller and smaller

A Remarkable Gift

- Is Jesus demanding too much from His disciples?
 - I would say yes except for His nuggets of truth He had left them and us
 - **John 14:2-3 ESV**, “I am going away to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also”
 - **John 14:18 ESV**, “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”

Scripture

- **John 16:1-4 ESV**, “1 I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. 2 They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. 3 And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. 4 But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

Scripture

- **John 16:4-11 ESV**, 4 “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

Scripture

- **John 16:4-11 ESV**, 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Scripture

- **John 16:12-15 ESV**, 12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Remember My words and remain strong and true

- **John 16:1-4 ESV**, “1 I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away.
 - 2 They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God.
 - 3 And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me.
 - 4 But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.”

It is to your advantage that I go away

- **John 16:4-7 ESV**, “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.
 - 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ (*Why are you going*) 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.
 - 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you.”

It is to your advantage that I go away

- **John 14:15-17 ESV**, 15 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

I am sending you a remarkable gift


- **John 16:7-11 ESV**, 7 “But if I go, I will send him to you.”
 - “8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

The Holy Spirit will be your truthful guide

- **John 16:12-15 ESV**, 12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth,
 - for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
 - 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

A Remarkable Gift

- **Romans 8:2 ESV**, “For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death”
 - **TLB**, “And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death”
- **Romans 8:31 ESV**, “If God is for us, who can be *(successfully stand)* against us?”

A dove is depicted in a state of being consumed by fire. The bird is shown in profile, facing left, with its wings spread. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with a dark, smoky background. The overall effect is one of intense heat and transformation.

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all that God desires us to be.

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