

Naïma Saint-Fleurant

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“A SOLEMN COVENANT: The Dedication of Myself to God.”

By Albert Benjamin Simpson

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“O You everlasting and almighty God, Ruler of the universe, you who made this world and me, your creature upon it, you who art in every place beholding the evil and the good, you see Me at this time and know all my thoughts. I know and feel that my inmost thoughts are all familiar to you, and you know what motives have induced me to come me to you at this time. I appeal to You, O You Searcher of hearts, so far as I know my own heart, it is not a worldly motive that has brought me before you now. But my ‘heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked,’ and I would not pretend to trust to it; but you know that I have a desire to dedicate myself to you for time and eternity. I would come before you as a sinner, lost and ruined by the fall, and by my actual transgressions, you, as the vilest of all your creatures. When I look back on my past life, I am filled with shame and confusion. I am rude and ignorant, and in your sight a beast. You, O Lord, did make Adam holy and happy, and gave him ability to maintain his state. The penalty of his disobedience was death, but he disobeyed your holy law and incurred that penalty, and I, as a descendant from him, have inherited this depravity and this penalty. I acknowledge the justness

of your sentence, O Lord, and would bow in submission before you. "How can you, O Lord, condescend to look on me, a vile creature? For it is infinite condescension to notice me. But truly, your loving kindness is infinite and from everlasting. You, O Lord, did send your Son in our image, with a body such as mine and a reasonable soul. In Him were united all the perfections of the Godhead with the humility of our sinful nature. He is the Mediator of the New Covenant, and through Him we all have access unto you by the same Spirit. Through Jesus, the only Mediator, I would come to you, O Lord, and trusting in His merits and mediation, I would boldly approach your throne of grace. I feel my own insignificance, O Lord, but do you strengthen me by your Spirit. I would now approach you in order to covenant with you for life everlasting. You in your Word have told us that it is your Will that all who believes in your Son might have everlasting life and you will raise him up at the last day. You have given us a New Covenant and have sealed that covenant in your blood, O Jesus, on the cross. "I now declare before you and before my conscience and bear witness, O you heavens, and all the inhabitants thereof, and you earth, which my God has made, that I accept the conditions of this covenant and close with its terms. These are that I believe on Jesus and accept of salvation through Him, my Prophet, Priest, and King, as made unto me of God wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption and complete salvation. You, O Lord, have made me willing to come to you. You have subdued my rebellious heart by your love. So now take it and use it for your glory. Whatever rebellious thoughts may arise therein, do you overcome them and bring into subjection everything that oppose itself to your authority. I yield myself unto you as one alive from the dead, for time and eternity. Take me and use me entirely for your glory. "Ratify now in Heaven, O my Father, this Covenant. Remember it, O Lord, when you bring me to the Jordan. Remember it, O Lord, in that day when you come with all the angels and saints to judge the world, and may I be at your right hand then and in heaven with you forever. Write down in heaven that I have become yours, yours only, and

yours forever. Remember me, O Lord, in the hour of temptation, and let me never depart from this covenant. I feel, O Lord, my own weakness and do not make this in my own strength, else I must fail. But in your strength, O captain of my salvation, I shall be strong and more than conqueror through Him who loved me. "I have now, O Lord, as Thou hast said in Thy Word, covenanted with you, not for worldly honors or fame but for everlasting life, and I know that you art true and shall never break your holy Word. Give to me now all the blessings of the New Covenant and especially the Holy Spirit in great abundance, which is the earnest of my inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession. May a double portion of your Spirit rest upon me, and then I shall go and proclaim to transgressors your ways and your laws to the people. Sanctify me wholly and make me fit for heaven. Give me all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. "I am now a soldier of the cross and a follower of the Lamb, and my motto from henceforth is 'I have one King, even Jesus.' Support and strengthen me, O my Captain, and be mine forever. "Place me in what circumstances you may desire; but if it be your holy will, I desire that you 'give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient, lest I be poor and steal, or lest I be rich and say, Who is the Lord?' But your will be done. Now give me your Spirit and your protection in my heart at all times, and then I shall drink of the rivers of salvation, lie down by still waters, and be infinitely happy in the favor of my God.

A. B. Simpson

My Solemn Covenant

“Father God, king of all the earth, from eternity to eternity, you are God. You are worthy of glory, magnificence, and praise. You created us in your image, here we are at your feet, and we thank you because you make us such wonderful creatures. We praise you, and we adore you for your greatness. You did not forget about us even when we did all that you had warned us not to do. You saved us from Pharaoh’s hands and did not let us die from slavery. Lord, you are the only good that is happening to us; you are caring even when we act like spoiled children; you love us even though we tend to forget about you when things are doing well for us, and you receive us when we want to talk about what torment us. You let your only son die for our sins, but here we still are, disappointing you again and again as if what you have done did not matter to us. We are ungrateful, and we do not deserve your love. Pity, it is how I feel about myself for still having the courage to ask for forgiveness when I know I should have listened to you before. My promises to stop doing bad things are like a room without decorations; they mean nothing if I cannot keep them. You are my guide; you follow me in dark places. You give me the light to know where I put my feet and cheer me up when I am lost. You are a great listener and a good teacher, and I feel ashamed because I am a bad student and only remember you when I need comfort. When I am distressed, you are here to lift my spirit; it is by living in your shadow that I feel happy in my life, and yet sometimes I ignore your existence to prove that I do not need you. My ignorance towards you eats me every time I call your name, with tears straining my cheeks to ask for forgiveness and for you to take me back in your journey to save humanity. If I had oppressed your Church in the past, please forgive me because I had caused your people trouble and made them tangled in my drama. If I doubted your ability to do great things in this world, I ask you to forgive me because I am a bad child. I believe that I am not thinking straight when I

act upon my desires instead of working on what you have planned for me. Help me see past my comfort zone and offer my aid to those who need it. I am unaware of your calling for me because I am self-absorbed by sins. Give me a second chance to glorify your name and spread your message around the world. Thank you for giving me time to understand your words and put them into practice. You had trusted your son to bring peace in this world, so allow me to find peace in this world and guide you on the right path. You give me strength and wait for me to come to you. You do not give up on me even when I am distracted by my evil thoughts or discouraged when I fail. Thank you for loving me and supporting my decisions, and through your loving and caring persona, I am still in this world.

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