

DELIVER ME

Written by David Myers and Carl Cartee ©2014 Centricity Songs / BMI (admin by Music Services, Inc.)

The cornerstone of this lyric is set squarely on a line from a 19th century poem by a missionary to India named Amy Carmichael. The poem “Flame of God,” reads as follows:

From prayer that asks that I may be
Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee,
From fearing when I should aspire,
From faltering when I should climb higher
From silken self, O Captain, free
Thy soldier who would follow Thee.
From subtle love of softening things,
From easy choices, weakenings,
(Not thus are spirits fortified,
Not this way went the Crucified)
*From all that dims Thy Calvary
O Lamb of God, deliver me.*

Deliver Me is a song of confession and a confident assurance of pardon much like Psalm 51. This rhythm of confession and pardon is at the very core of our worship in Redemption City, as it has been in the Christian church since her inception. We come to God declaring, “against You—You alone—I have sinned and done this evil in Your sight” (Ps 51:4 HCSB). We ask the Father to do what He alone can do: “Be gracious to me, God, according to Your faithful love; according to Your abundant compassion, blot out my rebellion. Wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin” (Ps 51:1-2 HCSB). In the song *Deliver Me* we remind ourselves of the promise of the cross and declare, “Redemption's flood has washed me clean, white as snow!”

Honest confession of our sin is always met by the pardon that is available to us in Jesus. Our song lyric declares, “You don't know me for my failures because you've paid the debt I owe.” In 2 Corinthians 5 Paul declares emphatically, “He made the One who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (2 Cor 5:21 HCSB). And so we sing to God, “Bring Your fire, come refine my stained heart, purify me from all that dims Your Calvary, Lamb of God, deliver me.”