

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

The Captives

There are those who oppress their fellow
human beings only to find themselves alone.

Those who are self-centered, only to remain
on the outside of things looking inward,

Those who demand the best for themselves,
only to end up with nothing that truly matters.

Who, then, is in bondage?

The oppressed ones? They are the communion of saints.

Those who care more for others than for themselves?
They are invited into the inner sanctum.

Those who demand nothing? They lack for nothing
and, consequently, have everything.

Or, is it, perhaps...

The lonely ones,

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The ones on the outside, always looking in,
The ones who have nothing of consequence?

*“Therefore I say to you, love your enemies,
do good to those who hate you, bless those
who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.”*

[Lk 6:27, 28]

For the Spirit of the Lord

*“has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and the opening of the prison to them that are bound.”*

[Isa. 61:1; Lk 4:18]

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