

Lazarus, Van Gogh

Lazarus rises from the grave

He has experienced the event of death

But now called out of the tomb

Now to work again with his squabbling sisters

Now to work with the consequences of this major event

Now to carry on with his pilgrimage of life

The Easter events that we are follow in the next few weeks

These seem so much more dramatic

With the thought of stepping with Christ into eternity

I know that eventually I will share in the death of Our Lord Jesus Christ

I know that my heart will stop beating

I know that my breath shall fade

And then

My journey will continue on into eternity

But that is so much mystery

And daunting

And not so simple as this resurrection of Lazarus

Somehow this event of Lazarus

I can comprehend easier

Emerging from the darkness

From the grave

Stepping out of the tomb to face the consequences of my vocation

This calling of Jesus

This stepping out of the darkness

This I have often experienced

Roger Mcgough a great poet

writes about the morning after the night before

It begins

So its head down and into the hangover

Did I really do that

Like Lazarus called by Jesus from this grave

Stepping forward out of the darkness

Facing the consequences

And onward

Perhaps even more real the experience of depression

Where all life is immersed in darkness

Were movement and vision

Seem somehow inhibited

Bound by invisible bands of fear

Then like Lazarus

I can hear Jesus calling me out of this grave

Stepping out of that darkness

Facing the consequences

And onward

Or even the confusion and loss of grief

My mother's death. My sister's death.

Were life is submerged in blinding confusion

Were movement and vision seem somehow inhibited

Bound by invisible bands of pain

Then like Lazarus

I can hear Jesus calling me out of this grave

Stepping out of that darkness

Facing the consequence

and onward

Yes eventually my heart will stop beating

I shall cease to breath

Thus a dramatic journey into eternity shall begin

But for now

With greater humility

I join Lazarus confused and still bound

As Jesus calls me

Out of this grave

That this day

I find myself in

And you

Should it be the case?

That you experience

The darkness confusion and fear

Of one of these earthly tombs

Jesus calls you

Jesus calls you

Come out

Jesus calls you

Have faith

Emerge and engage

Face the consequence

And onward