

PRAEFATIO: PRINCIPALE OBJECTUM

“Preface: The Main Objective”

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A Preface to Accompany the Christian Proposal for the Renewal of the Middle East

OPENING PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world and Prince of Peace,
You who walked the hills of Galilee, wept in Jerusalem, and rose triumphant from the grave-
Send forth Your Spirit to prepare the hearts of nations,
To soften what is hardened, to illumine what is darkened,
And to gather all peoples under the shadow of Your Cross.
Let us be Your vessels of truth and mercy, witnesses like the Apostles,
Carrying not ourselves, but Your glorious presence into every place You send us.
Let our lives bear the fragrance of Your love,
That in seeing and hearing, many may be drawn to You.
In Your holy name, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To all who read this letter-leaders of faith, stewards of the land, seekers of truth, and bearers of peace:

Grace and peace to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb who was slain and now lives forever. This proposal is not simply a call for political renewal or regional stability, but a mission rooted in the very heartbeat of Christ-to bring His living presence back to the lands of His birth, His ministry, His Passion, and His Resurrection. It is our firm conviction that the true transformation of the Middle East will not be realized through policy alone, but through the manifest presence of Jesus Christ dwelling among His people through the Holy Spirit.

Just as the Apostles stood boldly in the Sanhedrin, proclaiming not their own strength or cleverness, but bearing witness to the Risen Lord with love, signs, and unwavering conviction, so too must we stand in the very lands where prophets walked and the Messiah wept. Not with condemnation, but with compassion. Not with conquest, but with communion. Our goal is not to build a Christian empire, but to become a temple of the Spirit, visible and radiant, in the heart of a region bruised by war and scattered by division.

We recognize that the Middle East is sacred to many-Jews, Muslims, Christians-and we affirm the dignity of all who earnestly seek God. Yet we must also declare, with humility and holy courage, that Jesus Christ is Lord, the Son of the Living God, and that through Him alone comes salvation and true reconciliation-between man and God, and among all peoples.

This mission is not to create a pluralistic shell that denies Christ for the sake of harmony, nor to demand forced conversion, but to live and breathe the Gospel so authentically, so lovingly, and so sacrificially that the fragrance of Christ draws hearts to repentance and truth.

Just as Peter said in **Acts 4:12** before the rulers of his day:

“There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

We hold that the presence of Christians-true Christians, filled with the Spirit, walking in humility, proclaiming Christ crucified-will be the spark for many to feel the

warmth of the Holy Spirit. And having felt it, many will begin to seek the truth not because they are pressured, but because they have witnessed it firsthand.

This is not about tolerance devoid of truth. This is about the beginning of a spiritual reunification—where the promises made to Abraham are fulfilled in the Son, where the veil is lifted, and where the peoples of the earth behold the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

We pray that the light from the East—Lux Ex Oriente—will shine once again. That Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Damascus, Antioch, and Baghdad will ring with the songs of the saints. That Muslim, Jew, and Gentile alike may, through the love of Christ made manifest in His Church, say as those on Pentecost did: “What must we do to be saved?”

This is the heartbeat of our mission. This is the spirit of our proposal.

Let it be done not by might, nor by power, but by His Spirit, for the glory of God the Father, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who reigns with Him in the unity of the Holy Spirit—one God, forever and ever.

Selected Scripture Verses

Acts 1:8

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

2 Corinthians 2:14-15

“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of Him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.”

Isaiah 60:1-3

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.”

Closing Prayer

O Holy Spirit, Flame of Truth and Breath of God,

Go before us now as You went before the Apostles.

Open the eyes of the blind, open the ears of the nations,

And break down every wall that separates us from Your light.

Let Your presence in us shine so brightly,

That even those who have never known Your name may ask,

“Who is this Christ whom you serve with such peace and power?”

And may they come, and may they see,

And may they believe, for the glory of God.

In Jesus’ holy name we pray. Amen.

Lux Ex Oriente: Ad Pacem et Renovationem in Christo

(Light from the East: Toward Peace and Renewal in Christ)

With unwavering hope,

In Christ our Redeemer,

Seth Winslow Young

Servant of the Gospel

Pastores Pacis

Crucis Domini 6