Not Yet Home

1 Peter 2:11

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you.^[a]

Introduction

You may write me down in history With your bitter, twisted lies, You may trod me in the very dirt But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? 'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns, With the certainty of tides, Just like hopes springing high, Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken? Bowed head and lowered eyes? Shoulders falling down like teardrops, Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?

Don't you take it awful hard

'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines

Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words, You may cut me with your eyes, You may kill me with your hatefulness, But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?

Does it come as a surprise

That I dance like I've got diamonds

At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame
I rise
Up from a past that's rooted in pain
I rise
I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear I rise
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise
I rise
I rise.

Still I Rise

BY MAYA ANGELOU

Who Are You?

You Are

- 1. v.1 Chosen
- 2. v.14 Children of God
- 3. v.21 Believers in God
- 4. v.2:5 Living Stones
- 5. v.2:9 Chosen Race
- 6. v.2:9 Royal Priesthood
- 7 v.2:9 Holy Nation
- 8. v.2:9 A People for God's possession
- 9. v.2:10 Gods People

You Have Received

- 1. v.3 New Birth
- 2. v.4 Inheritance
- 3. v.5 Protection by God
- 4. v.9 Salvation of your Souls
- 5. **v.11 Grace**
- 6. v.18 Redemption
- 7. **v.2:10** Mercy

Dear Friends = Beloved, loved ones,

Urge (pa-ra-ka-leo) to ask for something earnestly and with propriety—'to ask for (earnestly), to request, to plead for, to appeal to, earnest request, appeal.'1

Romans 12:1-2

12 Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I **urge** you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship. ^[a] ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

Dear friends, I urge you, (I ask earnestly, I request, I plead I passionately plea, I beg you) as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you. [a]

¹ Johannes P. Louw and Eugene Albert Nida, <u>Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains</u> (New York: United Bible Societies, 1996), 407.

This is not our Home

Hebrews 11:13-16

¹³ These all died in faith without having received the promises, but they saw them from a distance, greeted them, and confessed that **they were foreigners and temporary residents on the earth**. ¹⁴ Now those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they were thinking about where they came from, they would have had an opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But they now desire a better place—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

Why is Peter pleading so Passionately? Cause he knows how Temporary this Life is.

1 Peter 1:17

¹⁷ And if you address as Father the One who judges impartially based on each one's work, you are to conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your temporary residence.

James 4:13-14

¹³ Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit." ¹⁴ You don't even know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like smoke that appears for a little while, then vanishes.

Psalm 39:5

⁵ You, indeed, have made my days short in length, and my life span as nothing in Your sight. Yes, every mortal man is only a vapor. *Selah*

Psalm 102:3

³ For my days vanish like smoke, and my bones burn like a furnace.

Job 14:1-2

14 Man born of woman
is short of days and full of trouble.
² He blossoms like a flower, then withers; he flees like a shadow and does not last.

Job 9:25-26

25 My days fly by faster than a runner; [a]
they flee without seeing any good.
26 They sweep by like boats made of papyrus, like an eagle swooping down on its prey.

1 Peter 1:24 ²⁴ For

All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like a flower of the grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls,

1 Peter 4:7

⁷ Now the end of all things is near; therefore, be serious and disciplined for prayer.

Romans 8:13

¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

2 Timothy 2:22

²² Flee from youthful passions, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Matthew 16:24-26

²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wants to come with Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life because of Me will find it. ²⁶ What will it benefit a man if he gains the whole world yet loses his life? Or what will a man give in exchange for his life?

The Spirit versus the Flesh

Galatians 5:16-26

¹⁶ I say then, walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don't do what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: [a][b] sexual immorality, moral impurity, promiscuity, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambitions, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, [c] drunkenness, carousing, and anything similar. I tell you about these things in advance—as I told you before—that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, ^[d] ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, we must also follow the Spirit. ²⁶ We must not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

How do I Fight This Battle?

1. Know You're in a Fight.

1 Timothy 4:7-8

⁷ But have nothing to do with irreverent and silly myths. Rather, train yourself in godliness, ⁸ for the training of the body has a limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

²⁴ Don't you know that the runners in a stadium all race, but only one receives the prize? **Run** in such a way to win the prize. ²⁵ Now everyone who competes exercises self-control in everything. However, they do it to receive a crown that will fade away, but we a crown that will never fade away. ²⁶ Therefore I do not **run l**ike one who **runs** aimlessly or **box** like one beating the air. ²⁷ Instead, I discipline my body and bring it under strict control, so that after preaching to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

2. Know You Can Win

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. **God** is faithful, and He will **not allow** you to be **tempted beyond what you are able**, but with the temptation He will also **provide a way of escape** so that you are able to bear it.

- Boundaries.
- Accountability
- Increase Your Love for God

Conclusion

Jude 24

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless and with great joy,

Dear friends, I urge you as strangers and temporary residents to abstain from fleshly desires that war against you. [a]