

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality #4

A Time for Prayer and Solace

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Four step pattern of Christian prayer:

Lectio- the practice of spiritual reading

Meditatio- ruminative reflection

Oratio- praise and intercession

Contemplatio- a deep silence

Practitioners of the apophatic tradition:

Julian of Norwich: The Abandonment of Control

Meister Eckhardt: Letting Go of Thought

Author of *The Cloud of Unknowing*: Emptying of the Self

“...getting oneself out of the way becomes the central concern of contemplative prayer.” p. 71.

“Simply try to be the wood, and let it be the carpenter.” P. 71.

“...lost in a presence-almost-experienced-a-absence,” p. 72

John of the Cross: Loving What Cannot Be Understood

Thomas Merton: The Power of Acting while Expecting Nothing

Love is not itself until it is frail and can go wrong.

It does not run like a well-oiled machine...

Love runs best when it seems to break down...”

Stalking the Snow Leopard

“I hope there’s an animal somewhere that nobody has ever seen, and I hope nobody ever does.” Wendell Berry’s daughter, “To The Unseeable Animal”