

The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality #6

A Time for Prayer and Solace

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Part II - Illumination-Waiting in a Silence Beyond Language

“Don’t point at the mountain! It’s rude!”

---an Athapaskan mother to her young daughter

“There may be more to learn by climbing the same mountain a hundred times than by climbing a hundred different mountains.”

---Richard Nelson, *The Island Within*

Let’s apply this exploration of illumination to this time of transition at RLBC:

“This tension between the dramatic and the common place is one familiar to biblical theology and human experience alike...One pole celebrates life at the center of action and change; the other speaks of the monotony of day-to-day affairs.” P.94

“Leviathan, ‘the coiled one,’ described in Isaiah 27:1 as the twisting serpent of chaos, ultimately destroyed by Yahweh.” P.96

“By contrast, Eastern dragons---are beautiful, gentle, and friendly. They may bring change and even death, but they do so as promise instead of threat.” P.96

“They can be handled better with gentleness than with force.” P.96

“...Special grace is extraordinary; it comes with drama and flair. We are rescued, singled out in a momentous act of boldness. But common grace falls upon the just and unjust alike. It strikes us as simply too...ordinary” P.98

November 17: Part II Chapter 4 beginning on page 100.