

A Meditation... Lament

Twenty-one Million! Twenty-seven Million! Thirty Million!
Why do you shout out? Why do you cry for freedom?
Why the noise? Why the call? Why the pleading? Why? Why me?

Why not?
Why don't you give voice to the voiceless?
Why don't you give freedom to the slave?
Why don't you rescue those who are helplessly trapped?

Are you not compelled to respond?
Are you not instructed to make a stand?

If I don't, what does that say about my faith?
My life in Christ? My being? My relationship with you oh God?

I heard it once declared,
"A decision to be silent is a decision to be in favour."
A decision to be silent about slavery is to condone slavery.
To be silent... to do nothing, is to sin? Is it not?

Yes we can speak about other things...
We can speak about the devastation of land mines.
We can speak about the war on terror.
We can speak about the hungry, the poor, the HIV/Aids epidemic, the leper, the disabled, the disadvantaged, the disenfranchised.
And we must.

But who will speak for the child soldier, the forced bride, the forced donator of organs or babies, the forced prison slave, the forced prostitute, the enslaved village who for several generations have been enslaved for a made up debt?

Who will stand for the enslaved?

My God! My Saviour! My King! My Ruler! I serve at your pleasure!
You ask, who will stand?

I will O Lord, I will stand,
I will stand against slavery!

[Light a candle and sit with this meditation allowing God to speak.]