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CLARION REVIEW ★★★☆☆ RELIGION

Love to God

Angie Snow
iUniverse (March 2010)
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"Oh Lord," Angie Snow writes, "…Move my pride out of the way and set humble submission in its place, I pray. Strengthen me to do all that is good and right that my heart may be pleasing in your sight." Well acquainted with the need for humility, Pastor Angie's story is one of being saved by grace. In this devotional volume, she describes the rebellious path her life has taken, passing through "adultery, drunkenness, thievery, and abandonment of self worth," as well as "power struggles and pride, lifelessness and selfishness, competitiveness, and conceit."

Love to God comprises fifty-one short thoughts, prayers, and poems, suitable for getting the heart oriented toward God. Its companion volume, Streams of Love (978-1-4401-0509-8), is a journal, each page of which provides one Bible verse and plenty of room to write. The devotions in Love to God reflect a gentle attitude, deep love for God, and daily dependence on his spirit. At times, the author shares with readers her struggles, as when she writes, "This morning as I start my day, I'm feeling a little alone and afraid…That is no way for a preacher to feel…As I consider God's Word, no particular verse or chapter, I am beginning to feel a little better, a little lighter."

Much of the poetry is quite good for an amateur effort. In "Breathing," she writes:

Let your holiness fall like raindrops
Water me with thy breath
Submerge me in thy current
Steady me in thy wind
Swaying, swinging to heavens rhythm
Your breath is the motion of me the flow of me
Bringing me to thyself in the air
Breathing.

At other times, God is lifted up and we are invited to seek him. "Passion motivated by love fueled by the power of The Most High is what I seek," she writes. "…Passion that if not expressed will burst into flames…that is uncontrollable…that transforms the one who possesses it, and infects others…as seen in the passion of his Christ; I beg that same passion."

There is a simplicity and randomness to Love to God. It is not a polished or well-crafted volume, but the spelling and punctuation errors are not excessive. While most of the book's subject matter is not new or profound, there is significance to these thoughts which effectively lead the heart to worship. The sincerity, openness, and lack of pretense are disarming and refreshing. For those looking for devotional material, this solidly Christian volume should be considered.

DAVID GEORGE (May 18, 2010)

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