

HOME

Translation of the booklet "OTTHON"

At home at last

I close the door, forget my frenzied life and relax. I am at home.

Why is it so great to be at home?

Because I am surrounded by familiar objects. I or we have made it like this. It is like me, like us.

Because I feel safe here, physically and spiritually.

Because here I don't have to behave myself, because here I can be myself.

Because here I am surrounded by a friendly and helpful atmosphere, by my loved ones.

Because when I am here I can keep out those things or people that disturb me or weigh me down.

What else would you add to the list above? Or is it not that great to be at home?

The promise of God: "My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes ..."
Isaiah 32:18

At home, but where?

Where am I at home? Where I am right now, where I live?

Or do I long to be somewhere else?

Do I long to be somewhere in the future? Maybe when I have moved to a bigger flat, a house with a garden, to Buda or to the countryside.

Or do I long to be back in the past? To my childhood, to my parents' place or to our first place together as a couple.

Our real home is not a place, not a flat or a house, although these are important, too.

The most important thing about our real home is a relationship, to this place, to objects but above all with those who are there. With someone or with other people.

Our relationships with others are decisive, but the most important relationship is the one between God and people.

We are really at home when we are close to God. That is where we can be ourselves, that is where we are safe, that is where we may rest. That is where we can even be liberated from our own annoying bad traits.

What is your real home, dear reader?

"But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge."
Psalms 73:28

Our lost home

Unfortunately, a lot of people lose their home even nowadays because of a war or an earth-quake, and not necessarily because of some kind of disaster. It is enough to not be able to pay back a loan, to become ill or to fail in a relationship and we lose our home.

We have all lost our safe home, that is, being in a close relationship with God. We have often felt its absence. However, our home is still there. Even if we are not aware of it, it is still there, but it is very far away. We cannot get there because our chains and doors of iron keep us out.

These chains and doors are inside us. They bind us and won't let us go. Selfishness, anger, pride, avarice, hate, lechery and so on. Behind all this there is our unwillingness to let God interfere in our lives. This is why we have ended up like this.

The Bible says openly that all of the above is evil and bad and it destroys us and keeps us apart from God.

However, it also says that there is a way back to our lost home.

How attractive is our lost home? Would I rather keep my own supposed righteousness, my anger and my chains?

*"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you."
Isaiah 59:2*



There is a way back to our lost home, but only one. Besides, the entrance is narrow.

We don't like it when there is only one single solution. We are used to being able to choose from several options the one we like the most. The Bible speaks about one road and one door.

Jesus had a very close relationship with his heavenly father. This was his spiritual home even though he didn't have a place to lay his head here on earth. He is the only one who can show us the road to God, and he says that there is only one road, and both the gate and the path are narrow.

I cannot take my dark secrets, my anger, my pride, my own sense of righteousness or even my own image of God with me.

In the picture, the door is closed, but Jesus opened the road to God when he died on the cross.

This is why he came. He was tied up, even nailed to the cross, so that I may be free from my chains and ties. He died and was risen. He can close the past for me, too, he can start something completely new and carry me home to the Father. This is why he could say about himself: I am the gate.

What does it mean to walk through this door or gate?

Jesus says: "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved." John's gospel 10:9



Is our lost home out of reach for us, is it too far away?

I am only at home when I have come home.

Jesus calls you to follow him. To listen to him and to live your everyday life according to his teaching. If I start walking with him and trust him with my life, I will get close to God, already here in my life on earth. I come home and I am at home, no matter where I am.

At the end of my life on earth I will finally and definitely come home to him, to Jesus.

I will be at home with my whole being forever where he is, with him.

Dear reader, are you still somewhere else, far away? Are you on your way? Can you already say: "I am at home"?

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John's gospel 14:3

A Christian community is also a home. It is an earthly home for those who seek God or those who follow Jesus and have found a real spiritual home close to God.

Such a Christian home and community close to your place is: See on the booklet!

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