

Solitude: (scene) *A Full Moon or moonlight over a Campus setting*

Solitude Series: an introduction to the solitude for the rest of us

Do you remember the Fievel Mousekewitz series, particularly the first movie, “An American Tail”? If you don’t remember or have not seen the movie, it would be a worthwhile investment of your time and resources to take a few minutes to enjoy it. The story, set in the late 1800s, is about a mouse that immigrates to America with his family, only to become separated from them during the voyage. There is a touching scene where Fievel and his sister are separated, but share a full moon, and a song with these words:

*“Somewhere out there, beneath the pale moonlight.  
Someone’s thinking of me, and loving me tonight.  
Somewhere out there, someone’s saying a prayer,  
That we’ll find one another, then meet some where out there.”*

Sometimes we have dark days and nights when we feel truly alone. Life is like that. We enjoy mountaintop experiences when all is right with the world, followed by the lowest valleys that can cast heavy shadows over those fleeting moments of joy. It is during the low periods of life that we are often challenged with thoughts of loneliness. However, it is during these times that we are in the best position to look up and see the Creator through His greatest work: the awesome majesty of His still, quiet creation.

The universe governs time and space with unparalleled precision, and confirms the existence of an ordered peace, of promises made by our Creator. When alone or shaken by life’s troubles, we can draw strength by moving from loneliness to solitude, choosing the presence of God, absent from man, as we experience peace at the works of His hands. As we gaze at the moon – whether fully or partially displayed – we are reminded that He who spoke the universe into existence has spoken His promises of peace over us:

*“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27)*

*“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)*

The song in the movie ends with these words:

*“Somewhere out there, if love can see us through,  
Then, we’ll be together,  
Somewhere out there, out where dreams,  
Come true.”*

It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD (*Lamentations 3:26*)