

We Believe

*I will not believe in the law of the strongest,
In the language of guns,
In the power of the powerful.*

*I want to believe in the right of all,
In the open hand,
In the strength of the non-violent.*

*I will not believe in race or riches.
In privileges,
In the established order.*

*I want to believe that all human beings
Are human beings
And that the order of force and of injustice
Is a disorder.*

*I will not believe that I don't have to concern myself
With what happens far from here.*

*I want to believe that the whole world
Is my home, the field that I sow,
And that all reap what all have sown.*

*I will not believe that I can combat oppression out there
If I tolerate injustice here.*

*I want to believe that what is right
Is the same here and there
And that I will not be free
While even one human being is excluded.*

*I will not believe that war and hunger are inevitable
And that peace is inaccessible.*

*I want to believe in the love of bare hands,
In peace on earth.
I will not believe that any effort is in vain.
I will not believe that the dream of human beings
Continues being only a dream
And that death is the end.*

*But I dare to believe in the dream of God:
A new heaven, a new earth
Where justice reigns.*

By Dom Helder Camara (Brazil)