

The Father Won't Let Go

Doctor Zhivago is a 1965 epic romantic film set in Russia between the years prior to World War I and the Russian Civil War of 1918 to 1922.

The film stars Omar Sharif in the title role as Yuri Zhivago, a married physician whose life is irreversibly altered by the Russian Revolution and subsequent Civil War, and Julie Christie as his married love interest, Lara Antipova.

In it is a beautiful scene in which the Comrade General is talking with Tanya who – unbeknownst to her – is Zhivago's daughter. He is asking her about one of the traumatic experiences in her childhood, a time when she became separated from her adoptive father, a lawyer named Komarovskiy. He asks her, "How did you come to be lost?"



She replies, "Well, I was just lost."

He asks again, "No, how did you come to be lost?"

Tanya doesn't want to say. She answers simply, "I was just lost. My father and I were running through the city and it was on fire. The revolution had come and we were trying to escape, and I was lost."

The Comrade General asked more emphatically, "How did you come to be lost?"

She still didn't want to say. Finally, though, she did explain: "We were running through the city and my father let go of my hand and I was lost." Then she added plaintively, "He let go." This is what she didn't want to say.

The Comrade General said, "This is what I've been trying to tell you, Tanya. Komarovskiy was not your real father. Zhivago is your real father, and I can promise you, Tanya, that if this man had been there, your real father, he would never have let go of your hand."

That's the difference between a real father and a false father, is it not? A real father would never let go of his child's hand. That is also the difference between a real God and a false one.

Many people link themselves to false gods – power, wealth, physical appearance, the approval of their peers, etc. Sooner or later, each of these gods betrays us. They can take us only so far and no farther. Then, they, too, let go of our hand. Only one God is all-sufficient in every circumstance in life and beyond.

(more)

It is the eternal God – the God who made Himself known in Jesus of Nazareth.

What difficult situation or circumstance do you find yourself in today? Are you running from it in fear and anxiety? God has your hand – and He won't turn loose.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God (2 Corinthians 1:3-4 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter