

A review of An Evening of Inspiration with Terry Waite and Robert Clausnitzer

I am very glad that I went to hear Terry Waite. He has really seen a lot and has a very inspirational message. Here is his story, or part of it anyway.

In the early 1980s, Terry Waite, working as the Archbishop of Canterbury's adviser, negotiated the release of several hostages from Iran. This caused worldwide attention. After getting colonel Ghadafi to release some British hostages from Libya in 1983, he became very popular. But when he was negotiating for the release of hostages in Lebanon in 1987, he himself was abducted. He spent 5 years in prison, 4 of which were in solitary confinement, before being finally released in 1992.

He shared with us his experiences, and how really found himself there. The main points he focused on while he was there were: “*No regrets, no self-pity, no over-sentimentality*”. He told his captors that they could destroy his body, damage his mind, but they couldn't take his soul. He finished by saying: “*We live in a world full of suffering. Suffering can destroy you if you allow it. But suffering need not destroy*”. I really enjoyed listening to his story, and he how learned to “live from within”.

I also really liked listening to the amazing vocalist Robert Clausnitzer, who sang some very moving songs which I felt fitted the evening perfectly. The songs he sang were: *The Impossible Dream*, *You'll Never Walk Alone*, and *This is The Moment*. He finished with *Make Them Hear You*. I really enjoyed listening to him, too.