

TRINITY NEWS

Seeking for Wisdom in the Tangles of Human Frailties

Luke 16:1-13

The world that I thought I knew as a child is crumbling around me. All of the nations are beset in some way by the lack of a coherent worldview and the lack of any sustainable perspective in dealing with the vast world within us. The problems of persuasive games of greed, the thirst for power and resorting to violent methods to gain and sustain them are only part of the tangled web. There is a widespread use of drugs as a panacea for immense social ills and the vast needs of people for meaning and being loved and finding focus. This is so often unmet or ignored, and it diminishes dignity and self-worth. Religion with its central vision of love and compassion still fails to capture the interest of many people. They are aware of the loss at times but they do not know how to regain it.

Those of us who are passionate about faith in Christ have often failed to clearly understand and apply the message and example of our Master. He came bearing love in a world that sometimes understood that what he was offering was something incredibly beautiful and yet unattainable. He was rejected and went to the Cross and paid the price of being innocent of their self-seeking manipulations. We write books about those who seem to have captured most of his genius like St Francis and Mother Teresa and many others who have made huge efforts to promulgate the inner journey they have traversed themselves in finding real love within their souls. Jesus for us is the greatest saint of all, but we do not call him a saint because saints are measurable in some way, but he is the immeasurable man without dimensions and without parameters. The Gospels give us very little of his inner journey, what went on in his inner soul.

The centuries after him bear witness to the struggle of those who have visibly loved him the most in the historical human meanderings of the soul as much as we can discern them. We have only the reflections of those who first interpreted what he said and tried to live it in some way. His teaching is still the greatest repository of his distilled thought, but it grates in the ears of the arrant individualism of the West and drowns in the oceanic vision of religious spirituality in the East.

The enigmatic parable of the Dishonest Steward is the most complex piece of teaching that Jesus uttered. He may have had some notes in Aramaic to aid his teaching! It praises shrewdness in handling the problems of the world. But it also speaks of our yearning for lasting safety and relationships. Taking on the vast complexity of human life in the 21st century returns no results for simplistic thinking at all. It requires deep wisdom and the guidance of the Source of our wisdom and a revival of the wellsprings of hope. We need to be aware and astute. An open heart is the product of an open mind. Our main awareness task of every day is to learn more about our co-pilgrims on the human journey and the Universal Pilgrim who walks with us all. Then we will be truly astute as he rightly discerned!

Bishop Arthur Jones

THIS WEEK:

Monday.

- Finance Meeting, 5:30pm, Parish office.
- Vestry Meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory.

Wednesday.

- Bible Study, 10:00am
- Group discussion, 7:30pm, Parish office

Thursday.

- Midweek Eucharist, 10:00am, Chapel

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Amos 6:1-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:11-19
Luke 16:19-31

ON SALE!

Copies of a book entitled "With Bigger Eyes and Heart in Head: Being Anglican in Post-Windsor Time" are now available from Bishop Joel Pachao at the Diocesan Office in Baguio City, or through the Prime Bishop's Office in Quezon City. This is written by The Rt. Rev. Artemio Zabala, who currently serves as a retired bishop in residence in the Diocese of Los Angeles.

Proceeds from the sale of this book will go to a mission fund in Baguio to support initiatives for development of lay ministry of Anglicans.