

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27, 2020

Interesting collection of readings today.

In our first reading from Ezekiel, the people of Israel are complaining to God saying that God's ways, are not fair. God's manner of decisions-making is unfair. You who are parents, haven't you heard those words thrown to you? "That's not Fair"? How did you respond to that challenge? The Lord's response: "Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair?" What or who determines the "right" to be the decision-maker? What constitutes fairness? We might argue the persons involved would be of equal or similar expertise and proficiency, and perhaps even authority. What is fair?

In our Gospel, Jesus is asking the chief priest, the elders and US, "what is your opinion?" a fair question. Their answer, "The First", reveals their own blindness and obstinacy. Unlike the tax collectors and prostitutes who believed and became obedient to their faith, "They did not change their minds and believe."

And in our second reading, we have Paul speaking of Jesus, "though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather he emptied himself..." "He humbled himself.... Becoming obedient ...". Perhaps that is our challenge, we would be wise to empty ourselves, to try on a little humility, and to be open to changing our minds, and surrender in Obedience to God.

Allow me to close with a quote from Meister Eckhart, OP

So You want to find God?

Empty yourself of everything---

Your worries and your hopes,

your wishes and your fears

For when you are finally

Empty, God will find you,

because God cannot tolerate

Emptiness and will come to fill

you with Himself.