

October 28, 2018

30th Sunday in Ordinary time

The blind man did not ask for riches but for light!

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalm 126:1-6

Hebrews 5:1-6

Mark 10:46-52

The people are delivered; the remnant is brought back. The Lord encourages them to shout with joy, exult, and proclaim their praise. They once departed in tears but are now guided and consoled and none shall stumble. The Lord is as a Father to Israel.

The psalmist describes the return of the people as if it were a dream. They were filled with laughter and great rejoicing and are thankful in recognizing this was a great accomplishment of the Lord. Those who sowed in tears are to reap rejoicing and they seek restoration of their fortunes.

Paul notes that every high priest is taken from among men and is a representative who offers sacrifices for sins. Such a person is called by God just as Aaron was. He is able to deal patiently with the erring and the ignorant for he too is beset by weakness. Christ was called by God and glorified in that he is a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Jesus hears Bartimeus, a blind man calling out for mercy. Many rebuked him to be silent but he cried out all the louder until Jesus had him brought over. He "wants to see," is healed, and told to go his way for his faith has saved him and he follows Jesus on the way.

The Father sent us
The Son, glorified as High Priest forever
Who patiently guides us through the Holy Spirit.

Life often brings dramatic and unsuspecting changes and this is what the Israelites experienced when they returned from exile. It was a dream come true at an unexpected time and it was recognized as the intervention of Yahweh. How great was the joy of the people! Bartimeus also experienced an instantaneous change as his life of darkness was transformed into a life of light by Christ, the high priest glorified by the Father. Do not be surprised when good things come your way and you too reap rejoicing.

"I Want to See"



From the universe we learn that God is infinite, that we cannot compass him at all. From such little things as insects, flies, little frogs, mice and flowers, we learn that he is something else. He is Father, brother, child, and friend!

If you ever had a little green tree frog and watched him puffing out with the pomposity worthy of a dragon before croaking, you must have guessed that there is a tender smile on our heavenly Father's face, that he likes us to laugh, and he laughs with us; the frog will teach your heart more than all the books of theology in the world.

(Caryll Houselander (+ 1954) was a British mystic, poet, and spiritual teacher.)

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