

Reflection for Wednesday of week 10 Year A 2020 Fr Euloge Kasine aa

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I would like us today to meditate upon the commandments of God's Kingdom. Jesus Christ says: a person "who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the Kingdom of heaven"

For all the times we did not encourage people to love God's commandments and live according to them for peace and prosperity, we confess and say: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison

Meditation on: Kings 18: 20-39; Matthew 5: 17-19.

The commandments of God's Kingdom

In the Prayer of "Our Father", we always say: "Your Kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Dear brothers and sisters, as Christians we long for God's Kingdom. As Christians we exist for the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth; a Kingdom, which is governed by the Holy Will of God. This will is nothing but the well-being of all people.

No-one will deny that each society has rules, laws to follow. These laws or rules are very often given in order to maintain order in the society; they try to keep in harmony the lives of people. Drivers for instance, will be happy to receive and master the Guide to driving because to know and apply the laws and rules regarding driving keeps not only one's own life safe but also saves the lives of others. Therefore, no-one will support the breaking of laws which harmonise people's lives. A person who supports the breaking of laws, which bring harmony and safety, will be considered as the enemy of his/ her own life and of others as well.

A person, who is for the prosperity and well-being of people in a society, should keep the law and teach others to do the same. The greatness of a society is seen when everybody in that society is safe and protected. In God's kingdom there is care for all since this kingdom is governed by righteous laws. The psalmist declares that all God's laws are love and truth (Cf. Ps 119: 151); they are perfect, restoring life (Ps 19: 7).

Only the person who has chosen the way of love and truth can accept the law of the Lord and say like the psalmist: "Teach me, LORD, the meaning of your laws, and I will obey them at all times. Explain your law to me, and I will obey it; I will keep it with all my heart. Keep me obedient to your commandments, because in them I find happiness" (Ps 119: 33-35). In God's commandments there is happiness because they show the path of life and the fullness of joy.

Elijah, the servant of God, experienced the joy of being obedient to God's commandments. In fact, those who keep God's commandments are not put to shame. The joy of Elijah was to see how God won back the hearts of his people. "Elijah said to all the people, 'come closer to me' and all people came closer to him. At the time when the offering is presented, Elijah the prophet stepped forward, 'Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel,' he said 'let them know today that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, that have done all these things at your command. Answer me, Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, Lord, are God and are winning back their hearts."

We need to step forward and call people to come closer and listen; we need to call people to come back to love and mercy. When people are in despair and anxiety, one of the right things to do is to pray to God so that he may touch the hearts people and lead them to harmony and peace.

The Son of God, gave us a new commandment, which is: "love one another as I have love you." Jesus Christ was closer to his people; Jesus loved all people, the righteous ones and sinners as well. The new commandment calls us to a new life, a life of love, faith and hope. There is hope that our unfair laws will be renewed and be imbued by the spirit of harmony and care for all.

Jesus said: I have not come to abolish the law or the prophets, but to complete them. To complete the Law here has to be understood here as to purify it from everything that destroys life.

Reflection for Wednesday of week 20 Year A 2020 Fr Euloge Kasine aa

That's why to the law: "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth", Jesus reacted and taught forgiveness. He said: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for those who mistreat you and persecute you."

Dear brothers and sisters only good can eradicate evil. Goodness is more powerful than evilness as a blessing is more powerful than a curse. Those who chose evilness increase their sorrows, but those who chose goodness will prosper since God will be on their side and make them strong. Goodness is the nature of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, the person who keeps and teaches God's new commandment is great. One's greatness is seen in the love one has towards God and neighbour.

Let us be great by following God's commandments! God is the true commander for prosperity and harmony. He says: "You shall not kill"; "You shall not covet your neighbour's goods".