

Reflection Tuesday Week 9 – 2023

It would appear that even from the earliest of times when people really want something from you, they began with flattery and positive comments just like the Herodians and Pharisees today. Many faced with this approach soon learned that there was something fishy in the air. Jesus is no exception. Maybe if the Herodians and Pharisees who wanted to belittle Jesus had just opened themselves to Jesus, everything would have been different.

A Hasidic tale:

The Jews of a small town in Russia eagerly awaited the arrival of a Rabbi. This was a rare event so they spent a long time preparing the questions they wanted to ask the holy man. When he finally arrived and they met with him in the town hall, he could sense the tension in the atmosphere as all prepared to listen to the answers he had for them. He said nothing at first; he just gazed into their eyes, and hummed a haunting melody. Soon everyone began to hum. He started to sing and they sang along with him. He swayed and danced in solemn, measured steps. The congregation followed suit. Soon they became so involved in the dance, so absorbed in its movements that they were lost to everything else on earth; so, every person in that crowd was made whole, was healed from that inner fragmentation that keeps us from the Truth. It was nearly an hour before the dance slowed down to a halt. With the tension drained out of their inner being everyone sat in the silent peace that pervaded the room. Then the Rabbi spoke the only words he pronounced that evening: *"I trust that I have answered your questions."*

To believe in Jesus is to let Jesus in!

A circus owner walked into a bar to see everyone crowded around a table watching a little show. On the table was an upside-down pot and a duck tap dancing on it. The circus owner was so impressed that he offered to buy the duck from its owner. After some wheeling and dealing, they settled for £10,000 for the duck and the pot. Three days later the circus owner ran back to the bar in anger *"Your duck is a rip-off! I put him on the pot before a whole audience, and he didn't dance a single step!"*
"So?" asked the ducks former owner *"Did you remember to light the candle under the pot?"*