

INTRO - Once again we have OT reading that pints to JC passion.

Last week Isaiah Suffering Servant Song – 500 yrs before JC describes how JC would be beaten, spat upon and ridiculed. This week WISDOM 100BC – but here its the plotting, how the wicked plan the persecution of the Just One and condemn Him to a shameful death

– Then the Gospel – JC is still playing hardball with the disciples AND US.

He tells them plainly ' the Son of Man will be handed over, they'll kill Him and 3 days after
His death the Son of Man will rise' ITS TIME TO GET SERIOUS LUP

WISDOM

This reading is often applied to the passion of J. Many have understood these verses to be a direct prophecy of what is to come 100 years before JC READ IT

JC does speak against injustice JC does criticize the establishment for corruption

JC is put to the test JC is arrested, imprisoned, treated with revilement and torture

“That they might have proof of His gentleness”

For, according to His own words God will take care of Him

Did He suffer Y Did He die Y Was it a shameful death Y

Did God take care of Him – Y – the tomb is empty

So we too can trust that God will take care of us too – lead us, protect us, guide us, guard us

I believe the Lord uphold MY life – and so should all of us

Thus PS 54 – once again a Psalm loaded with CONFIDENCE, despite the trial

“The Lord upholds my life” This is our plea:

God by Your name save me By Your might defend my cause Hear my prayer

God is my helper – God sustains my life

HOW? The answer is in JAMES – “Wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle, compliant full of mercy.” THAT is our hope *but how we ask for it matters* READ IT

Gospel

- Remember when you were little and your mother said “Wait till I get you home”

- You knew what that meant

- But it was worse if you just got the look & she didn’t say it – and you knew...

THATS WHAT HAPPENS IN TODAY’S GOSPEL

- **NB - Jesus comes down from Transfiguration – then takes them aside – in private –**

- Teaches them “The Son of Man must be handed over to men, they will kill him, and three days after His death he will rise.” Teaches them He is Suffering Servant – need for Cross.

- But They don’t understand AND WERE AFRAID TO QUESTION HIM

Is fear good? Not here.

- So - Journey continues – and *they argue about who is greatest*

- **Look what Jesus does** – He hears them arguing – and just like Momma, He waits:

- After they reach Capernaum (J’s home) AND after they were in the house -

- “What were you arguing about?” SILENCE

- Think about this – 12 guys in Jesus’ living room - SILENCE – Ashamed/Embarrassed

- Jesus is teaching about His death & resurrection – they don't hear Him.

- They are so caught up in jealousy & ambition – IT GETS IN THE WAY

- James just said “where jealousy and ambition exist disorder & every kind of foul practice exist.

- BUT wisdom from above is – pure, peaceable, gentle, compliant, merciful

- Without wisdom from above we get conflict, disputes, war, murder envy quarreling & fights

What is getting in the way of our hearing Jesus?

- JESUS SITS DOWN and calls the 12 and deals with their ambition

- He doesn’t crush their ambition – He RECREATES their ambition

- Ambition to rule becomes ambition to serve

He can do the same for us with whatever is getting in the way of our hearing J.

BUT WE HAVE TO SIT AT HIS FEET

We think we need to be good – and we should be

But, are we supposed to be good people, or are we supposed to be good for people?