

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – A (arguing with God Sunday)

- Both Jer and Peter argue with God today
 - Have you ever done that in your prayer?
 - In our humanity, sometimes we need to – that’s what happened to JER
 - HISTORY OF JER –
 - Davidic Throne will last forever
 - So – party on
 - BUT – sin is an affront to God
 - JER sent with a hard message – REPENT – and he’s rejected & ridiculed
 - Frustrated – we hear this confession today
 - *You duped me O Lord and I let myself be duped*
 - *The Word of God has brought me derision and rebuke all the day long*
 - *I will speak His name no more --- YET ---*
 - *Then it become a burning fire in my heart – I cannot hold it in*
 - The message of ROM comes alive
 - Offer yourself as a living sacrifice, holy & acceptable to God
 - Don’t conform to this world but be transformed and discern the will of God
 - This is exactly what JER does – so should we
 - But it’s a lesson that Peter has yet to learn
 - When Peter hears JC say he must suffer and die
 - (to become a living sacrifice, holy & acceptable to God)
 - Peter uses the world’s standards and says “God forbid anything like that should happen to you”
 - You can hear JC “AAHHHGGGH”
 - Get behind me satan, you’re not thinking like God does
 - Peter unknowingly presents a temptation to JC to avoid the cross
 - JC rebukes him - only death will result in His resurrection
 - ***Face it - Only death gets us to eternal life***
 - How we live on the way to death should be:
 - *‘a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God’*
- We can be like the people of Israel in Jer’s time
 - Presuming salvation without price OR
- We can be like JC
 - Giving ourselves totally – WHY – because we are God’s beloved
 - Not because we have to – but because we want to
 - Love of God drives us to give ourselves
 - Love of God compels us to love one another – the image and likeness of G
 - The love may require sacrifice
 - But the Good News is:
 - “He who loses his life, for my sake, will find it
 - And find it for all eternity