

Scripture Reading

A Reading of the Gospel According to John (*John 1:1-5*)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection – Do I compartmentalise God?

Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made (John 1:3). Everything that exists comes into being through the power of God. Only God has the real power of creation – to make something out of nothing. Man is able to transform matter through the knowledge of Science and technology God has given him. Through leaps in knowledge and technology which God has graciously allowed, man is able to do many things which the most intelligent animal is incapable of. This tempts humankind to the delusion that the world revolves around him. His natural place as a creature of God has never occurred to him in this age at the height of atheism.

Worldly wisdom places advanced technology and God in different categories not knowing it is God who provides the technology to us as stewards (not owners) – not to be used for personal profit and enrichment but for the welfare of His people and His greater glory. God's command to subdue and rule over the earth and its creatures (cf. Genesis 1:28) for the welfare of His people still applies to all the modern technology and knowledge that He has made available in our times. Worldly wisdom snuffed out the unique place of God in our society, a place that cannot be filled by any created thing, human or angelic, and created a huge void. A vacuum cannot exist in the physical or spiritual world. It is immediately claimed by forces that are hostile to God, and so we have seen how technology was made use of for personal enrichment, to facilitate crimes in cyber space, to spread pornography, etc.

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it (Psalm 24:1). **'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord Almighty (Haggai 2:8).** Worldly wisdom says politics and religion do not mix. Look at the state of the political arena today. Is it a wonder that truly capable people with vision and good will are not attracted to this area where power is wielded as if it were an end in itself? Power is intoxicating and without the guiding influence of God, it totally corrupts and becomes self-serving. Is there such a thing as clean politics in any country?

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God (2 Corinthians 4:4). The Prince of this world, the Enemy of God, Satan has temporarily gained dominion of this world through sins that are committed against God. Human minds are darkened, earthly wisdom took over and human vision lost its heavenly focus and gets mired in atheism and loss of peace that only God can provide (cf. John 14:27).

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus... (Colossians 3:17). God exhorts us not to compartmentalise Him in any aspect of our life: family, relationships, career, workplace, society, friends, hobby, financial transactions, investments, our emotions, our intellect, our way of thinking, etc. To do so will invite loss of peace, confusion, watering down of our precious faith, loss of graces, problems, distancing ourselves from God.

Conversation with Jesus

Precious Lord, You are Almighty God and out of divine love, You willed everything that came into being for Your glory. I too have been made for Your glory – a glory which You promise to share with me (cf. Romans 8:18). Give me the grace to humbly know my place before You: Your creature, Your little child and to render You loving reverence that never takes You for granted. Grant that whatsoever I do, I do it out of love for You and never to exclude You from any aspect of my life. Lord, I put my life into Your hands. Mother Mary, Protectress of the Faith, please intercede for me. Thank You, Jesus. Praise You Jesus.