

Monday of Easter Week ~ 4/9

"They left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped Him." (Matthew 28:8-9)

Everything is different now. For the first time the truth is clearly seen. Jesus, the prophet of Israel is no mere prophet. Jesus, the healer and miracle worker is now revealed to be so much more. Jesus, the friend and confidant of these women now appears in glory. What was hidden from their eyes is now apparent. Jesus is the Son of God. The transitions from life to death back into a powerful new life can only be the work of God. No mere mortal could claim the ability to transform and resurrect. Jesus the friend must now be worshipped.

Easter is about seeing with new eyes the love that has been with us all along. It is about those moments in our lives when a deeper meaning begins to surface and we know that it is the work of God. Easter is about the experiences of new life that leads us to our knees, leads us to humble adoration. Easter is about knowing that the Christ of history is the Christ that is still actively engaged in our lives today.

In every encounter with God that takes us to new levels of love and understanding grace is the catalyst. Grace, the movement of the Spirit within that we have no control over, opens our eyes to the new life. Just as these women of Scripture, we too have those moments when we realize the profound presence of God in our lives. These graced moments are moments of connection, moments when we know beyond a doubt that God loves us. These are not always grand experiences, but they are experiences that will leave us changed forever. And in the end that is what the Easter experience should be about; it should be about changing us inside forever.

Many Easter graces come to us throughout our lives. The challenge is for us to be aware of them when they touch our lives. Too often we are distracted and busy with our own concerns, and the moments of encounter are lost in our race through the day. Perhaps during this Easter season we can try to live a little more aware of the graces that are being lavished upon us. And if we find moments in our day when God is revealed to us in the person of Christ then perhaps we will also kneel down and worship at the feet of our Savior.

Questions for Reflection

- 1. What grace inspired moments of Resurrection stand out in my life?*
- 2. What would happen if I worshipped God every time I was aware of grace, would I be on my knees a lot or not?*

Prayer: Risen Jesus, help us to realize the movement of grace in our lives.

May we respond in ways that give worship to you. Amen.