

## **Fourteenth Sunday Year A. 9th July 2023. Humility a Necessity for Christian Journey**

We live in a world that is advance in science and technology, knowledge is at our fingertips; we are blessed with so many intelligent people in the world, ranging from political, religion and traditional leaders; to businessmen or women and academics of every field of studies. In an ideal situation knowledge should help us become better people in the society, to live life devoid of evil and to have power to control our emotions.

It's unfortunate, despite the level of understanding, we are still living in darkness. That is why we channel our intelligence negatively, knowledge to doing evil act. Prior to election, our political leaders whom we chose to represent us often speaks intelligently, convince us with their beautiful manifesto, but the moment they get into various offices in government, their attitude does not reflect the intelligent people they were.

In the academic field, we see people who should use their knowledge to help the society grow are the once ruining it, professors' sales their rights for money and sometimes they fail to recognize that knowledge is power thus, allow themselves to be controlled totally by some illiterate politicians. Before embarking on any substantial business, we see how knowledge is employed by many businessmen and women, they always carry out a reasonable feasibility study, the moment that business is set up, money becomes their master so much that some people neglect the place of honesty. Similarly, our religious leaders who should stand as the moral forced using the knowledge obtained from the extensive study are the once supporting evil and some don't have conscience; therefore, are lacking moral courage to speak the truth that enlighten minds.

Oh what a world! In today's gospel, Jesus happily declared that he appreciates God the father for hiding these to the wise and the understanding and revealed them to infants; perhaps Jesus foreseen the danger of unguided intelligent and knowledge that was why He thank God for revealing the secret of life to those who are infants. He was referring to the humble. Any knowledge that does not lead to doing what is right is counterfeit. To have a guided knowledge of doing what is right, we must come to Jesus and imitate from the beautiful unity that exist between Him and father, which is why He said; "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my

yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Beloved in Christ humility is necessity in our Christian’s journey not an option! In our first reading, prophet Zachariah wrote: "Behold, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey." Humility is the mother of all virtues, once you are humble, you get it all. Jesus's victory on the cross was as the result of his humility, accepting to died for the entire world.

It is no doubt our leaders failed and will continue to fail without humility. Lack of humility is what causes discontinuity in the government; every regime wants to make a show of their project, thereby discrediting and disregarding the effort of their predecessors, it causes lack of unity among Christians and one community to the other. Pride makes us to feel we are better than others. Prophet Jeremiah said, “let not a wise man boast of his wisdom and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches.” 9:23. St. Paul said, “let him who boast, boast in the Lord.” 1 Cor 1:31. We are nothing without humility.

St. Augustine said in one of his letters, “The three ways to Christ is first through humility, second through humility and third through humility” (118:22). He also said, “it was pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angel.”. All that we are and have come from God. Why are we boasting and so full of ourselves? Jesus is humble per excellent. We must shoulder our yoke and learn from him; it is only that we can inherit the kingdom of God. I wish you a very happy Sunday.

Peace,

Fr. Jingbe Simon