

Lenten Reflections

Holy Week

The Divine Intervention

April 11, 2017



Scripture

Isaiah 49: 1-6

Hear me, O islands,
listen, O distant peoples.
The LORD called me from birth,
from my mother's womb he gave me my name.
He made of me a sharp-edged sword
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.
He made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me.
You are my servant, he said to me,
Israel, through whom I show my glory.
Though I thought I had toiled in vain,
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,
Yet my reward is with the LORD,
my recompense is with my God.
For now the LORD has spoken
who formed me as his servant from the womb,
That Jacob may be brought back to him
and Israel gathered to him;

And I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD,
and my God is now my strength!
It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant,
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,
and restore the survivors of Israel;
I will make you a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Our Scripture Reflection

Today's text contains the second of the "Suffering Servant Songs" from Isaiah. In Isaiah's words, we see the prophecy of the One who was sent by God the Father to be the instrument who would bring the wayward back to Him. He would also become a light for the world. Why? Because God wants all people to be saved.

Food for your Journey

Some people have written Personal Mission Statements to help them remember why they were born, why God named them before they were in the womb. Stephen Covey, in his celebrated book, *7 Habits of Highly Effective People* says, "Writing or reviewing a mission statement changes you because it forces you to think through your priorities deeply, carefully, and to align your behavior with your beliefs."

Some suggest that a personal mission consists of three parts:

- What do I want to do?
 - Who do I want to help?
 - What is the result? What value will I create?
-

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, You gave everything so that all of Your people might be saved. Help me, Lord, to carry on Your mission by being a light to others as I strive to imitate You Amen.