

But what about you ~ who do you say that I am? Midweek Reflection # 74

September 24th, 2009

This is perhaps the most important question we will ever have to answer.

It certainly was the most important question Jesus ever asked his disciples to answer.

It is asked in the middle of each of the gospels. Jesus has just asked the disciples

“Who are men saying that I am? They reply “Some say John the Baptist, others say that you are Elijah or one of the prophets” .

“But what about you ~ who do you say that I am?”

Peter jumps right in and replies “You are Christ” with little or no understanding of what that meant for Jesus or for their immediate future. It is a question each of us must answer probably many times in our lives. As the season of Advent approaches, it might be a worthwhile exercise for each of us to re-read the gospels with this question in mind. This time in the Church calendar, as we anticipate and celebrate Christ’s coming (not just once as the promised Messiah who comes to us as a little baby, but also His second coming which He promised as the triumphant Lord of the Universe), is a great time to re-read some of the wonderful passages in the New Testament that give us the big picture of Who Jesus is: Hebrews 1:1-10, Colossians 1:15-23 and Phillipians 2:5-11 just for starters. I have found this little exercise very helpful in preparing my heart and spirit for appreciating the Advent Season which is just around the corner. How can we prepare the proper welcome if we aren’t clear who it is we are welcoming?

I also want to share with you this week an anonymous quote that I have kept in my Bible for several years which has helped me a lot during this time of trial. I think I quoted from this before in my reflections, but it is well worth repeating.

“Travelers in the north Atlantic frequently observe icebergs moving forward against strong winds that try to blow them in the opposite direction. With eight ninths of their bulk under water, the great bergs move in the grip of a mighty ocean current that carries them forward no matter which way the wind blows. People who daily thrust their souls into the deep places of God transcend their circumstances in ways others can only marvel at and wish for.”

By God’s grace we can all find a way to daily “thrust our souls into the deep places of God”. God longs for intimate time with us. We can make Him happy by taking the time to seek His face by talking and listening to Him in the silence of our hearts.

May your week be full of moments when you can hear the gentle whisper, the still small voice that Elijah heard so long ago at the mouth of the cave on the mountain. A whisper of affirmation and encouragement. God is Good. Bless His Holy Name.

Under The Mercy,

Howie