

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost.

Proper 22, Year A.

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Saint John Episcopal Church.

Fr. Willie Font, O.P.

Lessons:

Exodus 20:1-7, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Philippians 3:4B-14

Matthew 21:33-46

### Jesus's Judgement

By Fr, Bro. Willie Font Sanchez, O.P.

“...the Kingdom of heaven will be taken away from you and given to the people that produce fruit of the Kingdom”.

In the name of the holy Trinity, Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

A. There is an old quote that says: When you tell the hard truth in people's faces, especially those that pretend to be perfect, there are two things (or attitude )that happen:

- Or they got mad
- On the other hand, they play the victim.

I will come back to this point later...

B. What is your idea about Jesus? Let us be honest.

- What part of his life or message do you like the most?
- His demanding speeches, his healings demanding faith, or his moments of confronting people.

I believe Jesus was a person (Prophet or messiah) who was very difficult to like. Why do you think he ends his days the way that he ends? His attitude was defiant, especially with people with secular or religious power.

C. Then, today, gospel. Jesus literally got in the face of the Pharisees and the Doctor of the Law.

- In Jerusalem and around the temple.
- Jesus is telling them that they mess up their relationship with his father and will pay the price.
- Moreover, they got mad and played the victim because Jesus was telling them the truth.

D. However, what about us? Do you think this gospel is about the Jewish only?

- Do we think we are saved because we come up to Saint John's Episcopal Church (our Jerusalem and temple)?
- What if Jesus showed up today and told this parable in our faces: What will we do, playing the victim or being mad because He is offending us?

E. Altar.

- This altar is a call to be surrounded by Jesus, and being surrounded by Jesus implies being called out to have a life in Him.
- Having a life in Jesus is to be questioned all the time by Him, not to mess up our part in the History of Salvation.
- AMEN.