

Stand erect hold your heads high

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God's project of justice will be realized if we accept to carry it out

Dear brothers and sisters,

the fact that God's project towards a humanity based on justice has not yet been realised does not mean that God the Father in the Heaven has failed, it is rather a failure of humans who have been created free to choose between Evil and Good. When the prophet Jeremiah spoke, God had already made several attempts at educating and guiding humans to become more just, righteous and honest among themselves so that they may live in peace as brothers and sisters.

Nevertheless, in spite of the appeals made by God who is a Father and a teacher, men and women of all generations of the Chosen People have not succeeded in building a community characterized by righteousness and justice as desired by God. And when the prophet Jeremiah speaks, the People still waits for the King of Justice who was to come from the line of David. Why is there such a delay in the coming of a Kingdom of justice and peace while the Almighty God is continually working? Do we attribute the failure to him? No, it is not a failure on God's part. It is a defeat of human who refuse to submit their freedom to God, who enlightens and guides the human spirit and will towards that which is good. It is the insuccess of the human creature who enjoying the power to choose, does not accept to be led by God on the way towards justice.

Today, 2000 years after the birth of Jesus Christ, many still attribute the injustices suffered by individuals, groups and peoples, who are still ruled by injustice, to the Church and to the Gospel. It is not that Jesus Christ and his Good News have failed. It is Christians who have failed because they have not let the Lord to convert them with his light, his truth and his love. Just think of the wars in the West where the majority are baptized Christians! Imagine! These wars have been fought in defence of the Faith in Jesus Christ, Saviour of all and Brother of all humans! Think also of the partisan groups labelled as Christians, which are still powerful today. Globalization, although good in itself, has also its egoistic aims which lessen its effectiveness in aiming at the common good. Is it not an instrument for transmitting certain cultures which before were imbued with the Christian spirit?

All the deviations which I have shared with you, prove that it is we Christians who are responsible for the Gospel's failure in achieving this, because we refuse to be converted and transformed by the Truth of Jesus Christ, who is our Redeemer and Model of justice. We can be transformed by God's truth if we constantly focus our attention on our Saviour. This is what St Luke says in his Gospel today: "stand erect, hold your heads high", let us always await our redemption.

The aim of this Forum has been precisely to help us to keep this Truth passed on to humanity by Jesus Christ, in mind. In the light of the Word of God, who is Truth and Life, we can look at our society with an analytic mind and discover the Good to promote and the Evil which we should eliminate from our Christian and social associations, from our individual lives and from our communities.

United and enlightened by this same truth which is our Lord's Good News to us, urged by this same conviction, we will be able to be consistent in being witnesses to a faith which can transform humanity.

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Catholic Action: lay faithful who live the ever newness of the Gospel and are a sign of communion

THE LASTING ACTUALITY OF A GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT