

Blessed are the Peacemakers

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Mathew 5 : 9

The peace makers of this world are truly the children of God.

The greatest Peace was made at the Cross, between God and man through the Son of God, Jesus Christ. The wall was broken down. Jesus said He has given us His peace not what the world would give, but His very own peace.

How does one appropriate this Cosmic Peace of Jesus in our daily routine colourless lives?

Sometimes bringing peace between hostile nations could be easier than peace between our neighbours.

The beauty of the beatitudes is that all these words deal with people. Us and others. Me and him/her. It is all about individuals.

The most fragile element in a relationship is peace.

If we want to be peacemakers in relationships we should never justify our actions or deeds. This may sound preposterous to some, but nevertheless this is true.

I repeat if we want to be peacemakers we should never vindicate our stand even if we know we are right.

Let us go to Exodus chapter 32.

It is when Moses went up to Sinai to receive the Commandments, the people of Israel had been fornicating.

God tells Moses that He will save his family and wipe out the rest, but Moses pleads for the stiff necked people.

Not only for the people, Moses pleads for the reputation of God Himself! It's strange but Moses does just that.

Can you believe this verse : And the LORD repented of the evil which He thought to do unto his people. V. 14

But Moses could have grabbed God's offer of being the only one to be the Chosen race, to be Israel, yet he put down that and was more concerned about the reputation of God and his people.

In verse 32, he pleads to God to forgive such people, and if God would not, He should delete his name from God's Book.

Moses did not justify his position, he did not celebrate his piety, his goodness and obedience, but pleaded for those who were rebellious and undeserving.

This is how a peace maker is. Not pushing their goodness but interceding for those who need the peace of God.

Coming to practical issues of our day to day life, if we want to be a peace maker, we must be silent even when we are wrongly accused.

Jesus was silent when He was unjustly put on trial. He did not argue for Himself, though He knew He was sinless.

Once of my student friends who still has a lot of problems with his faith, blurted out in despair, "This isn't just fair." And I replied, "The Cross wasn't fair either." That sentence really made him sit up and think.

Does that mean we must be quiet when something unjust happens?

When an injustice happens to others we should raise our voice for the weak and the suppressed.

At the same time, when it has been done to us, we should learn to hold our peace and let Jesus vindicate us. One day the world will know the truth.

If I want to make my case heard, argued and justified, I would have to come against my brother or sister who accused me. My cause probably would have been justified, but my relationship would be severed totally.

But there is another way, we can keep quiet when I am accused and do not retaliate and slowly this same person starts trusting us, because s/he knew that despite of their lies, we have not justified ourselves, but have continued to love.

If you remember the post day before yesterday, the bishop "gave" away his candle sticks so that Jean val Jean would have a chance to know about his love.

<http://yearningofmyfathersheart.blogspot.in/2012/11/blessed-are-merciful-for-they-shall.html>

By not accusing Jean valjean the bishop made him a citizen of heaven. This then is what we should do also.

To be quiet when accused wrongly, when condemned unnecessarily. One day the Lord will make our wrongs right. But it is not for us to fight. If you are too hurt take it to the Lord and He will heal. Anyways, the one who accused you cannot heal you. It is only the Lord who can heal:)

One day those who accused us wrongly will know it was not right. But what will touch them more is our silence, our grace and our love. It is this which will lead them to the way of the Cross, to the way to the Kingdom of Love and Peace.

But it is ours to love and to make peace. We are called to be sons and daughters of God Himself. And we are called peace makers.