

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 24 2019

1st Reading Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-13 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 Gospel Luke 13:1-9

The Lord was talking to Moses from the burning bush. He gave Moses the task of leading the Hebrews out of the land of Egypt – not an easy task, so Moses wanted some way to convince the Hebrews that his mission was truly given by the Lord.

The Lord told Moses “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” Apparently, this was not enough for Moses. He wanted something more to be able to convince the Hebrews. So he said if I tell them that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sent me, they’re going to ask me “What is His name?” A very interesting question!

We call God - God! Is that His name? Or is it, who He is? God Himself gave us His name in speaking to Moses. He said He is, or His name is, “I AM.” There is no “I was” or “I will be.” There is only the ever present, present. With God, and with eternity, there is only the ever present now. Think about it.

In the Gospel Jesus is assuring us that when bad things happen to good people, it is not the result of their sinfulness. Too often God is blamed for all the evil in the world, or for all the difficulties and hardships that we, or those close to us, endure.

In fact, God created us all good. Genesis says that God saw all that He created and pronounced them GOOD. But not everyone develops the good within. Far too many individuals, peoples and nations go astray and cause a great deal of trouble, difficulties and evil within the world. God allows us to act as we wish for we all have free will. As such God allows what many consider evil.

Few of us consider the difficulties and burdens we experience as being beneficial. However, Jesus clearly asked us to take up our cross and follow Him. So there has to be some redeeming value to the difficult situations in life. And there is! It is our acceptance and offering of our life as it is that is beneficial, if not redeeming, for all of us. We have to think about it and pray about it.