

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Thursday 2nd March 2023

By Revd John Ohen

“SIN”

Lent is a sacred season of repentance, conversion, and interior renewal. Lent is also when we embrace prayer, almsgiving and fasting. We all have a problem with Sin. It is not that we don't believe in the hidden and the dark force which compels us to sin or to do what we don't want to do. Our problem may be rooted in our inability to think things through properly.

The church at large sometimes think that sexual sin are the worse kind of sin. In sharp contrast, sins such as greed, hypocrisy, avarice, abuse of power, arrogance, aren't always seen as sinful or wrong. Why? They are just as bad, and we need to be mindful of them.

Our Lord Jesus welcomed, tax collectors, prostitutes, and those who are marginalised in society, but Jesus reserved the harshest criticism for the Pharisees, the religious establishment of his day. So where do we stand? For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3. 23. NIV. Similarly, in John 8.7 Jesus said “He who is without sin— cast the first stone “and no one did. No one is righteous, not even strait – laced, po–faced ministers. We all require the tender mercy of God. So, brothers and sisters let us in this Lent fast, pray for God's mercy and forgiveness for our sins.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Luke 5. 27 – 32

27 After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. “Follow me,” Jesus said to him, 28 and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

29 Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. 30 But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

31 Jesus answered them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, armed with the truth, righteousness, and readiness to proclaim the Gospel, teach me to love as you loved, and to lay down my life as you did. Amen.