

Thought for the Day – Tuesday 14th September 2021

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No More of This - Luke 22: 51

That is what Jesus tells His disciples, after one of them cut off the ear of a servant of the high priest, who was part of the gang that came to arrest Jesus. Those words were spoken to His disciples, but they are also words spoken to the whole of creation, to all times, to all places, to all people.

No more of this.

To violence of all kinds, physical violence, but other kinds too...spoken, emotional, spiritual, the violence of silence...

No more of this.

Violence against God's children, against God's creatures, against God's creation.

No more of this.

For one this is certain, "violence breeds violence, repression brings retaliation, and only a cleaning of our whole society can remove this sickness from our soul" said Robert Kennedy the day after Martin Luther King was assassinated.

We see the effects of violence and retaliation...we see it globally, on large scale...and we see it in smaller spaces, closer at home, sometimes even in church.

No more of this.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be peacemakers. None of us are as perfect as Jesus, we can all over step the mark sometimes, just ask Japhet Tanganga, but that does not invalidate our Christianity, or our calling...when we fall down, we get back up and keep going...

Today, whatever challenges we face, may we also look for those times where we can bring peace, for as Jesus said, 'blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God - Matthew 5:9