

Thought for the day – Friday 3rd May 2024

By Revd Kit Gunasekera

I have heard it said that many Palestinians, suffering great injustices under the actions of the Israeli government and by illegal settlers on their land, often feeling abandoned by world leaders and church leaders, find hope in the Loving Marches and protests of people world wide, as they feel that they are not forgotten.

Being remembered, being noticed, is powerful.

When Thomas wanted proof that Jesus had risen from the dead, he wanted to place his fingers in the holes made by the nails on Jesus hands. And when Jesus appeared to him later on, he invited him to do so.

It is interesting, that the nail marks were still there on Jesus' resurrected body. In many ways, he had an 'upgraded' body, capable of going through doors and walls, appearing and disappearing, whilst still being able to eat and drink and to be touched. The nail marks and the wound inflicted on his side by the centurion on the cross, still remain however, and will remain forever.

They are, I think, a permanent reminder, of his suffering, and I believe of our suffering. The Bible says that Christ bore our infirmities on the cross. They are a permanent memorial, to the wounds and injustices that we have all borne and which creation as a whole has borne, often where no one has noticed. Those things will never be forgotten by God and they will not be swept under the carpet in heaven. We are noticed.

However, it is a healed wound. In our remembering in heaven, there will no longer be any pain, or tears or grief. By His wounds, we are healed, Creation is healed, although we may not see it realised until we get to the 'other' side. The Resurrection, if it has any meaning, has to put right, the wrongs and injustices that cannot be put right by us.

With that knowledge, may we, find some comfort for our selves and this side of heaven, bring to light the injustices that are in this world and engage with them as we can. Perhaps we can turn some around. But even if we cannot, let us not sweep them under the carpet. For remembering by it self makes a huge difference to many and hopefully to us.

BIBLE VERSES:

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

- Psalm 34:18