

Thought for the Day – Monday 4th April 2022

By Revd John Marshall

Parable and Paradox Bible Study Malcolm Guite

Canterbury Press

We have been enjoying reading the Bible together both in church and on zoom.

Malcolm writes a poem about Bible Study.

Open the text again to every question
Its lexicon of possibility,
Its origin and form and *sitz in Leben* (1)
Its deep resistance and its clarity.
Untwist the thread of prejudice that binds you,
Pattern the fragments and reshape the shards,
Be lost in reading till the reading finds you,
Discern the Word that underpins the words
Begin at the beginning, make an end
Of all your old evasions, make a start
Counting the countless stars, the grains of sand
And find in them the fragments of your heart.
Open the text again, for it is true,
The Book you open always opens you.

- (1) Setting in life, or life setting. This term is often used by form critics seeking to determine the original context of a fragment of Scripture.

We do learn from Jesus the Word. And we also learn from each other. Why not join us?