

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Monday 3rd July 2023

By Revd John Marsdhal

Parable and Paradox The words of Life Malcolm Guite

John 8.68 Then Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.

You have the words of life, where should we go
Except to you, to try and take them in?
We want your words to quicken us, to know
And be transformed by knowledge deep within
How is it then, these words seem dead to us?
We neither let them go nor let them live.
Their empty echoes always seem to haunt us
As daily we refuse what they might give.
O Teacher, we need more than just the hearing.
More than these readings we have set apart,
Somehow the two-edged sword we have been fearing
Must pierce at last the well-defended heart.
Unsheathe it now and help us take their pain
Pierce to the point where we can start again.
Malcolm Guite Canterbury Press

It is good to listen to the words of Jesus, it is good to hear what they mean to others.