

Equality in Misery!

A Reflection on Psalm 51 in a Season of Pandemic

Reflections Prayer, Repentance and the Spiritual Life 21 April 2020

Psalm 51

Someone suggested, and others agreed, that we ought to meditate upon Psalm 51 in the light of the Coronavirus. While I agree that God deals with our sins in His own way, I am a little sceptical that the present epidemic is meant as a reminder of our sins; He has already done that, once and for all, in His incarnation in the person of Jesus Christ, who died for our atonement. I see it, rather, as a reminder about Jesus. The world over, so-called world leaders have risen up, almost pretending to be gods, blatantly declaring that they alone will rule the world. They have erred grievously in using spirituality — God, no less — as a weapon, wishing to divide the world two ways: their way, and every other way. Can you not hear Jesus telling us, in His still, small voice, that the world is His creation, and that no one may divide it as the present-day political masters, the world over, would wish to? He shows an equality in misery. He gives such leaders a run for their money.

What is needed of us is to stop fearing the enemy, and to place our trust in Jesus alone. It will not be easy, and it will be full of perils; but we must stay focused upon Him.

Yes, we have, in this season, both the time and the occasion to deal with our own sins too. But remember, there are no more Nathans left to shake us out of our stupor. We are on our own. Yet it matters not, for Jesus is there, as our Companion.