

The Adopted Life

Fifth Sunday of Easter ~ 05.22.2011

Adoption and Incarnation are Costly

Even as Stephen saw and proclaimed the Son of God as Man (the Incarnation), and received a literal hailstorm of stones for doing so, those who see and proclaim this same Incarnation with him, will often suffer for it (Acts 7:55-60.) Because we are sinners at the root of our existence, there is just no being adopted into the life of the Trinity in Jesus without the cost of suffering. Our sin problem is so organic and perverse that like a doctor having to break and reset a bone, so in Jesus Christ our sin and death had to be broken and reset, guaranteeing suffering. And because Jesus has adopted us and undone our brokenness through suffering and become victorious over the grave through His bodily Resurrection, we can pray with the expectation of an assuring answer, this prayer along with the Psalmist:

In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

~ Tim Brassell