

The Adopted Life

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany ~ 02.06.2011

Your Only Way Out!

After 18 months of preaching from the Apostle Paul about God the Trinity's shared relationship with them in Jesus, the Corinthian congregation had hardly transformed and was back at unruly thinking and living yet again! How does Paul discipline them once he learns of their senseless acts and infantile discord? He reminds them:

As it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2:9-10, 16b)

Do you see the profound nature of Paul's approach? Rather than acting on the "spirit of the world" (v.12) and beating down an obviously already beaten down Church, Paul proclaims the Trinity! Paul reminds them of the epiphany of the "mystery of God" (v.1). The Saving Grace of their situation in Paul's mind is to let them know that despite their issues and slow transformation, the Father reveals Himself to them through His Spirit, and they have the mind of Christ!

Imagine for a moment that the Corinthians hear Paul in the Spirit and take him seriously! Oh, what shared creativity they have in God the Father, Maker of heaven and earth, to see the unseen solutions they think they lack! Oh, what shared Light they have in flesh from the Son of God Who is Incarnate and present for them and for their Salvation! Oh, what shared Relational Power they have in the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father through the Son, Who shares with them the mind of Christ!

Imagine for one moment what would happen if YOU took your union with the Trinity seriously in the middle of your beat-downs, conflicts, disharmony and slow transformation!

~ Tim Brassell