

The Adopted Life

Third Sunday of Lent ~ 03.27.2011

The Lord Our Maker

Do you see how this title taken from the 6th verse of Psalm 95 speaks to the Inclusion of all of Humanity into the Life of the Trinity by Grace? Do you see how it also speaks of the participation of creation in that life, too? Good gravy, these four words are LOADED! When we speak of the Gospel properly as Jesus the Lord receiving us into His life and not so much our receiving him into our lives, do you see how this Psalm (in Holy Scripture!) is helpful in proclaiming that? If we were made by the Lord our Maker (Col. 1) , then doesn't that mean the Lord existed first? If God existed first (and revealed Himself to be a Relational Being when He uttered the words "Let Us make man..."), then isn't it only proper to say that to be made a created being is to be received into His life and relationship, and not vice-versa? All this is after God, through the Psalmist, has already made the point that the earth is His (Psalm 95:3-5). If the earth is His, and humanity is his, and none of us exist apart from God—nor are we God, nor did our faith get us here—then isn't it absolutely true that all of humanity is included in His life solely by grace?!

Of course, we can really only have this view from the Father, through Jesus and in the Holy Spirit (John 16:15). And it is only after seeing this wonderful act of grace that we could possibly understand: To harden our hearts against it (verse 8) and to not regard it (verse 10) would cause God to say in anger "They shall not enter my rest." For how could one who refuses such tremendous grace and truth have rest apart from trusting it and believing it? To not believe it would be to think that we are god ourselves, and that it is by our own faith that we got ourselves into God's world and relationship! Do you see the blasphemy, twisting of the truth, and the lie in that? But thank the Lord for the Psalmist who correctly acknowledges and encourages every one of us to acknowledge (verses 1-3) the Lord our Maker!

~ Tim Brassell