

Monday Quotes



Grain

“My goal in life is to be endlessly altered.” Holly Near

Field

1 At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2 He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4 Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” 6 Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7 So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ 8 He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ” Luke 13:1-9

Thoughts

It was as though Jesus wanted to cry, “Repent,” while wondering how people would interpret him. Please don’t hear that when adults and children are massacred, as many Galileans were by Pilate, that is evidence of how much more sinful those murdered were than you. Please don’t hear that when your fellow citizens suffer from a disaster, as the Jerusalemites did when the tower of Siloam collapsed on top of them, that they were less repentant than others. We may very well consider the opposite. How do we need to repent of judging? What kinds of adjustments to our perception of the world and God are due? Healthy spiritual answers to whatever questions are important for us to reflect on do not in the end, lead us to dwell on our mistakes or judgments, but to a new vision.

I have had many adjustments to my vision, several conversions. We can always repent, but at the same time, life is precarious. Illnesses, the danger that people create intentionally, natural disasters and ones caused by human errors make our time on this earth unpredictable. Our lives are too brief for parents not to realize that throwing their child out of the house for being gay is the sin, not their sexual orientation; to have in office fascist politicians like the senator in Australia who blamed Muslim immigration for the senseless massacre at two mosques in New Zealand; to blame structures that create poverty on those who are hungry; to not receive forgiveness for ways we have failed; or to blame ourselves for things that were never our fault.

Repent! What do you hear? Maybe that you will have some internal work to do. Also, hear the grace of a call to be altered and hold a new vision. Happy Monday!

Prayer

Highly recommended.

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Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Cindy