



A Reflection for Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity Readings - Psalm 24. 1 & Matthew 20. 1-16

Jesus teaches about understanding and accountability in terms of a Creator God. He teaches by using the parable of the vineyard and the workers. The landowner is in ultimate charge. The land is his. The landowner sets the pay scale and working hours for those he invites to work. There is no equivocation in Jesus' understanding that the landowner is in charge. The landowner being God. The vineyard being God's creation.

It is God who created the universe for life to exist and for that life to be in relation with a personal and loving Creator. The total interconnectedness of the bio diversity of the planet points to a Creator God. This is not a new concept. Psalm 24 written thousands of years ago proclaims.

'The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.'

Jesus is asking each one of us to have a positive and not a negative impact upon the natural world and to influence others to consider the same way of being. For God's creation is to be marvelled at and to be enjoyed responsibly.

The beauty and majesty of creation.

*Just as the even-bell rang, we set out
To wander the fields and the meadows about;
And the first thing we mark'd that was lovely to view,
Was the sun hung on nothing, just bidding adieu:
He seem'd like a ball of pure gold in the west,
In a cloud like a mountain blue, dropping to rest;
The skies all around him were ting'd with his rays,
And the trees at a distance seem'd all on a blaze,
Till, lower and lower, he sank from our sight,
And the blue mist came creeping with silence and night...
But the sweetest of all seeming music to me,
Were the songs of the clumsy brown-beetle and bee;
The one was seen hast'ning away to his hive,*

*The other was just from his sleeping alive,--
'Gainst our hats he kept knocking as if he'd no eyes,
And when batter'd down he was puzzled to rise.
The little gay moth too was lovely to view,
A dancing with lily-white wings in the dew;
He whisk'd o'er the water-pudge flirting and airy,
And perch'd on the down-headed grass like a fairy.
And there came the snail from his shell peeping out,
As fearful and cautious as thieves on the rout;
The sly jumping frog too had ventur'd to tramp,
And the glow-worm had just 'gun to light up his lamp;
To sip of the dew the worm peep'd from his den...*

Recollections After An Evening Walk by John Clare

Thank you for reading and please keep safe.

The Reverend Nick Devenish

*Adrian's music choices for Trinity Fifteen. Hymn: 604. Through all the changing scenes of life.
Psalm: 119, vv. 121-128. Organ: Voluntary in F - Samuel Wesley*

*If you are able, join me for a service of holy communion from The Priory.
Live streaming from 10.55am. Please go to the Cartmel Priory Facebook page.*