

Commentary to the 4th Sunday of Lent–Year B–

FROM THERE HE WILL COME TO JUDGE



One day God will evaluate the success or failure of one's life. From there He will come to judge is one of the articles of the faith we profess, but perhaps we have not ever wondered what from there means. From there, from where? We have not asked this question, perhaps because the answer seems obvious to us: He will return from heaven.

The Risen Lord promised to be with his disciples "always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20), therefore, there is no need to wait for his return and the throne on which he sits to pronounce his judgment should not be placed in heaven, but on earth. Where? Here's the surprise: it is from the cross that he judges the world.

It is Jesus, the crucified who, reversing the expectations and values of the world, judges the defeats a victory, service a power, poverty a wealth, the loss a gain, humiliation a triumph, death a birth. It is with the crucified Jesus that we have to deal, because he alone is the one who tells the truth about the choices of man. It is only his judgment that should be "feared", ie, accepted and followed.

The judgment of the Crucified does not inculcate fear. It is, yes, the most severe condemnation of all wickedness but it is a motive of joy and hope for the sinner; from the Crucified, in fact, everyone feels only to repeat: "I did not come to condemn the world, but to save the world" (Jn 12:47).

To internalize the message, we repeat:

"Let me not fear the judgments of people, but to follow your judgments, O Crucified One."

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

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