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"Come, Lord Jesus"



After reading the gospel for this First Sunday in Advent, I must admit it is not my favorite Advent reading. However, after much reflection I can relate to the 'anxieties of the world' and the turmoil we are experiencing. The hatred, injustices, inequality and unrest in our world is more than I have ever experienced in my 70+ years. There is a tendency to want to hide/escape from it all.

However, what is the Gospel saying to us today? It is telling us to stand tall and hold our heads up high.

The first reading says our Lord is our Justice – the days are coming when God will fulfill the promise – Hope is never lost - even when we are buried under the debris of destruction and corruption. We await the time when justice and peace will permeate our world.

St. Angela also lived in tumultuous times. Rather than hide/escape, her reaction was to look at the needs right where she was and act accordingly. She listened, comforted, and gave direction to those who came to her. She welcomed all people and would desire us to do the same.

During these weeks of Advent,

- \* May we Stand Tall Raise our heads knowing that our redemption is at hand.
- \* May we recognize the needs of our time in our own communities, nation and world.
- \* May we listen, comfort, welcome, give direction to those who are in need and most vulnerable.
- \* May we cry out each and every day "Come, Lord Jesus."

May we stand together! As St. Angela says, "Be united with one heart and one will!"

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