**God will Meet Us at the Point of Our Need**

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“Thus, says the LORD:

Observe what is right, do what is just;

for my salvation is about to come,

my justice, about to be revealed.” Isaiah 56

The Gospel of today, tells the story of the salvation for all who come close to the Lord.

* In order to be saved, we have to acknowledge God, - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and also live a life not persistent in sin.
* The CCC 1037: “God predestines no one to go to hell; for this, a willful turning away from God (a mortal sin) is necessary, and persistence in it until the end. In the Eucharistic liturgy and in the daily prayers of her faithful, the Church implores the mercy of God, who does not want “any to perish, but all to come to repentance”
* At Mass in the Eucharistic prayer, we beg God in the following word: “Father, accept this offering from your whole family. Grant us your peace in this life, save us from final damnation, and count us among those you have chosen.”
* Our readings today, speak towards salvation for all who humbly worship with humility.

1st Reading: Isaiah 56:1,6-7; started by telling us what to do in order to be saved.

* It tells us to observe what is right and do what is just. This injunction does not exclude anyone and does not place anyone supreme over another. It is only stating the way through which we can participate in the salvation that is coming.
* This passage contains a prophecy of the conversion of the Gentiles, and their accession to be part of the people of God. For God, in order to be considered blessed, one must observe and do His duties.
* “The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, ministering to Him, loving the name of the Lord, and becoming His servants… I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer…”
* No one is excluded, but all come to Him by uniqueness. A sound relationship with Him.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28; it is this sound relationship that is put to play in the episode that we read in the Gospel today.

* The woman, who is from a tribe that is completely excluded by the Jewish law from meriting salvation, approached Jesus, a Jewish Rabbi, for help to heal her daughter.
* For the Jews, anyone who is not a Jew is not allowed to come into all the parts of the temple, not to even think of approaching the Holy of Holies.
* In this encounter with woman, Matthew tries to explain the reason why Jesus had His disciples from every works and race of life and also that salvation is not an exclusive reserve for the Jews.
* For him, Jesus who is the Holy of Holies is in their midst, does not discriminate and that He has brought salvation for all. What is important is to recognize Him as the Messiah and worship Him.
* The woman called Jesus “Son of David.” This is an indication that she knows Jesus as the Messiah, the one who will teach us all things.
* Jesus’ objection not to listen to this woman at first, was to see how deep the faith of the people are to Him as the Messiah.
* The woman expressed her faith in the only one whom she believes can help her. She expressed her faith in the Messiah.
* This woman’s cry should be our own cry at all times; “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David.”
* What is expected of us as followers of Jesus is that we must have Faith and we must have Love. In the house of God of all the nations, everyone is invited to the banquet of love and everyone is a member of the family.

O God, let all the nations praise you! It is good to pray that the way of the Lord be known upon earth and among all the nations, His salvation should be enjoyed.

* It is this salvation for all that made St Paul to work very hard, especially to preach the Good News to the Gentiles.
* He has the intention of making the Jews jealous so that when they see the Gentiles embracing salvation by accepting Jesus as Lord, they will also come to acknowledge Him as the true Messiah.