

Lent Thursday Week 4

First Reading: Ex 32: 7-14;

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 106: 19-20, 21-22, 23;

Gospel Reading: John 5: 31-47

We human beings often create our image of God. The people of Israel modeled a physical image of Yahweh, the God of Israel. What was Jesus's contemporaries' image of Him?

Jesus stressed on four ways in which God is the witness to the truth of all that He taught: The testimony of John the Baptist (vv.33-34) witnessed to Jesus as the Messiah. The works of Jesus Christ gave clear testimony of the divine origin of all that He did (Jn 1:19, 20, 26, 29, 35, 36). The Father himself had given testimony at Jesus's Baptism and Transfiguration (vv.37-38);

The Scriptures, especially the Pentateuch, give testimony to Jesus (vv.39-40).

Jesus Christ who came in the name of His Father was not accepted. So, Moses who was forsaken but the people claimed they believe in him, will be the accuser of the people of Israel. What is our image of Jesus Christ? Do we box Jesus Christ into what we think He should be, for instance as a wander worker? Human desire for quick results leads to the creation of gods. When all human needs are taken care of, the tendency is to forget of the Creator of everything. Holy Scriptures inform us that that God reveals himself to the lowly, to those who trust not in themselves but in Him alone. The lowly of heart listen to God's word with an eagerness to learn, trust, and obey. Jesus Christ proved in this Gospel reading that our heavenly Father is more powerful than any god. In Lent Jesus Christ invites us to a change of hearts and our self-created images of God.

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