

11.22.2018 – Thursday – 33rd Week in Ordinary Time
Rev 5:1-10 LK 19:41-44

Jesus' earthly ministry centers and culminates in Jerusalem, which Scripture describes as **the holy city, the throne of the Lord** (Jeremiah 3:17); and **the place which God chose for his name to dwell there** (1 Kings 11:13; 2 Kings 21:4; 2 Kings 23:27); and **the holy mountain upon which God has set his king** (Psalm 2:6).

Jerusalem derives its name from the word "salem" which mean "peace". The temple in Jerusalem was a constant reminder to the people of God's presence with them.

When Jesus approached Jerusalem and saw the multitude of homes surrounding the holy temple, he wept over it. We do know, from this passage, that His knowledge made Him weep in sorrow. Here are a few points on which to meditate.

First, it's important to see the image of Jesus weeping. To say that Jesus wept implies that this was not simply some small sadness or disappointment. Rather, it implies a very deep sorrow that moved Him to very real tears. So start with that image and let it sink in.

Second, One of the most distressing experiences in our life is to be rejected by someone we love and care about. This is the kind of sadness, which engulfs Jesus at the beginning of today's gospel reading as he sheds tears over the city of Jerusalem. Jesus was weeping over Jerusalem because, as He approached and had a good view of the city, He immediately became aware of the fact that so many people would reject Him and His visit. He came to bring them the gift of eternal salvation. Sadly, some ignored Jesus out of indifference while others were infuriated at Him and sought His death.

Third, Jesus was not only weeping over Jerusalem. He was also weeping over all people, especially those of His future family of

faith. He wept, in particular, at the lack of faith that He could see so many would have. Jesus was keenly aware of this fact and it grieved Him deeply.

Reflect, today, upon

- i. The serious temptation we all face of being indifferent to Christ.
- ii. It's easy for us to have a little faith and to turn to God when it is to our advantage.
- iii. But it is also very easy to remain indifferent to Christ when things in life seem to be going well.
- iv. We easily fall into the trap of thinking we do not need to daily surrender to Him in the most complete way possible.
- v. Root out any indifference to Christ today and tell Him you want to serve Him and His holy will with your whole heart.

Lord, I beg of You to weed out every bit of indifference in my heart. As You weep over my sin, may those tears wash me and cleanse me so that I may make a total commitment to You as my Divine Lord and King.

Jesus, I trust in You.