



Dear Dames and Knights:

When we are in the season of ADVENT we are always aware that it will be a spiritual time of true ADVENT-URE! Luke 3:4-6 supplies it in historical, Biblical abundance. Consider that this very short Gospel includes references to PILATE, TIBERIUS, HEROD the TETRARCH, and 4 others, going up against the likes of our most famous desert dweller JOHN the BAPTIST. This young son of Zechariah echoes in the desert wilderness that all manner of God-made wonders — valleys, mountains, wild pathways, and rough roads — will all be made to bow at the will and word of the Lord. Thus, every physical, mental, and spiritual entity is subject to the will of God.

And these "despot" leaders of Biblical times have not a single breath of wisdom to embrace the salvation that is sent by God through His Son, Jesus the Christ. But, they could never believe a desert-dwelling man like John could be allowed to prepare the way for anyone, least of all the MESSIAH KING!

Can you remember the first person who made you aware that Jesus Christ came and died for you? A parent, a friend, a preacher, a Priest, or maybe someone that you would never have previously expected or believed. Someone who, like John the Baptist, would never have been expected to speak for the coming of eternal salvation.

Here is a final thought for this reflection: why do we ever question the pathway of prayer and grace that Jesus has asked us to walk and follow, with HIM? He will always walk it with us in our humanity, yet we at times feel so alone, possibly as did John while in prison. We must always endeavor to remember the words of our Lord in Matthew 28:20, "I am with you always, to the very end of this age." NOT simply in front or right behind, BUT WITH US, in the Eucharist, in our prayers, and in His Divinity — He is always with us.

If we embrace this spiritual reality in our heart, mind, and soul, we will then certainly be enabled to embrace life with full JOY, regardless of what this earthly life confronts us with, and above all the GLORY of the last 8 words of this Gospel will be the true ADVENT-URE of our lives now and in eternity.

ALL FLESH SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD

Blessing to All in this season of preparation.

Connie & Joe Micatrotto
Area Co-Councillors Las Vegas
Western Lieutenancy
EOHSJ Western USA Lieutenancy