

Thought for The Day – Monday 13th April

I have become increasingly disappointed recently over the behaviour of the media and some politicians. There is no question that the government should be held to account for its actions. But so many are trying to criticise the government in unhelpful ways, just trying to score cheap political points or trying to make the government look incompetent and foolish. But this is a time when we all need to pull together. We are in the midst of a pandemic the like of which we have never faced before and so much about the virus is unknown. It would seem sensible to cut the government a bit of slack and encourage its successes, rather than only decry its mistakes. It's so easy to just shout criticism from the sidelines.

Whilst reflecting on this, rather irritably, I was reminded, once again, by the events of that first Easter, which we have just celebrated, that God did not criticise from the sidelines or pour scorn over our failures or abuse us for our foolishness. He got involved. He came down to help us. He identified with us in the midst of our troubles. He provided a way forward. Though our failures were obvious and severe He did not want to punish us or put us down or reject us. In love He came to rescue us.

Christ didn't, and doesn't, wait for us to get ready. He presented himself for this sacrificial death when we were far too weak and rebellious to do anything to get ourselves ready. And even if we hadn't been so weak, we wouldn't have known what to do anyway. We can understand someone dying for a person worth dying for, and we can understand how someone good and noble could inspire us to selfless sacrifice. But God put his love on the line for us by offering his Son in sacrificial death while we were of no use whatever to him.

Romans 5:6ff (*The Message*)

Hallelujah indeed!!!

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