

ORDINARY TIME

EXTRA - ORDINARY DAYS

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October 25, 2020

- i. What is the most replenishing place that you like to visit in order to nourish the soul, body, and spirit?
- ii. The Psalms are a good place in Scripture: it is poetry, instruction, and wisdom for a meaningful life.
- iii. In Psalm One there is no ambiguity: Choose one route or the other.
- iv. It is written as if most folks will take the way of the wind, chaff, and anti-truth and justice.

THERE ARE TWO OPTIONS THAT HEPL US NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF LIFE....

I. OPTION ONE: THE WAY OF WATER

- a. Blessed are those who choose the way of love.
- b. Their life will flourish.
- c. It is rooted in Torah as all truthful instruction. All truth is God's truth.
- d. These folks choose justice.
- e. Symbolized by a tree planted by a stream of water. This is the center of the poem-v 3.

II. OPTION TWO: THE WAY OF THE WIND

- a. The way of the wicked, sinners and scoffers (ridiculers).
- b. Their life will dry up.
- c. Their life ends in death with no voice.
- d. It is rooted in Psalm 2 by those who plot in vain (Psalm 2:1).
- e. Symbolized by the chaff that is blown away in the wind.

III. HOW DO WE CHOOSE ONE WAY IN A BOTH/AND WORLD?

- a. Yes, but we do not live in an either/world, we live in a both/and world. How does one choose well?
- b. The remainder of the Psalms dive into those difficult questions like: Why? How long? When will you arrive? What is the reason for this?
- c. Recall last week that faith, hope and love become chaff without the water of grace.
- d. Absolutism creates division, warfare, death, vitriol, division. Soft either/or decisions allow water to nourish the roots so that there is room for wisdom in all things.
- e. A tree grows strong because its roots are exposed to a never-ending flow of water. The chaff dries up from the sun and blow away.
- f. So, choose for yourself this day—it is a this or that decision that is made soft by water so that wisdom can make its way in our life, this church's life and the common good for all people in the world.
- g. It is a matter of life and death.