

Mess

On Monday I had great plans. As usual it was in my diary to have a reading morning - this is always the hope. However, from the first moment I stopped praying a phone call came. There was some mess to tidy. The rest of the day then followed a similar pattern right up to my final email at around 10:30pm - dealing with mess.



Of course each mess was different...

- Some was a mess because of different view points.
- Another mess because of mistakes recent and another from mistakes past.
- There was mess because of lack of information and because of lack of skills.
- There was mess due to spinning too many plates.

Bless this Mess!

The reality is that life is messy. With COVID around, of course that mess gets a bit worse - even as we start to see a potential end to it.

And life has always been messy and that links back to chapter three of Genesis where mess first came into the world.

As Eve ate the forbidden fruit and passed it on to Adam, who followed her like a lemming plummeting to its doom, sin crept into this world. And, indeed, the world would not be a mess without this moment. I guess you could even argue that we wouldn't even know what mess looked like without it. Because sin seeks to mess things up and let's face it, so often we see that in our own lives.

However, one of the joys of mess is the feeling you get when you have that mess tidied away. A new beginning ahead. And as much as sin seeks to create mess, God loves to tidy that mess up. He loves doing it so much that he sent Jesus to die, for our mess - amazing!

But as well as creating a way to tidy the mess, God also likes to work through it.

God works through messy people, messy people like me and like you.

In fact if we look through the pages of the Bible we see how many messy people God used to bring about his sovereign plan. Just look at the stories through Genesis about Abraham's family and you'll see what I mean.

I think, this is all because God is lovingly sovereign. He is all powerful and supreme, but also knows our propensity to sin, and so as Romans 8:28 Reminds us, '*he works all things together for the good of those who love him and serve his purposes.*'

God takes our mess (whether inflicted on us, or our own doing) and transforms it to serve his purposes, and he seems to love doing it - he blesses the mess!

So when you are faced with mess rather than getting frustrated, try to ask God to transform it for His glory - and our relief!

Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Life is so messy, so often.

Help me to trust you tidy the mess around me

And use me through the mess,

So that Your purposes are accomplished.

Amen