

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 28/29, 2017 – Reflection

"You turned to *God* from idols to serve the living and true *God* and to await His Son from heaven, Jesus, who delivers us."

(I Thessalonians)

There are plenty of people in the world who fear and distrust the stranger, who hate the foreign tongue, the pigment of skin, the different custom.

You must be better than that - for I AM THE LORD.

There are plenty of people in the world who take advantage of the little people, men who use women, grown adults who treat children as playthings.

You must be better than that - for I AM THE LORD.

There are plenty of people in the world who pile up riches for themselves, who amass great arsenals, who gouge for the necessities at marketplaces, who chafe at taxes and charity.

You must be better than that - for I AM THE LORD.

There are plenty of people in the world who walk by the beggar never batting an eye, who come up against the unwanted or inconvenient and throw them out as just so much worthless trash, who hear the cries of

the hurting or the hungry or the heartbroken, or the handicapped, or even the holy prophets, and turn a deaf ear and do nothing, give nothing.

You must be better than that - for I AM THE LORD.

Yes, there are plenty of people in the world just like that. But you ...

"You are

A Chosen Race,

A Royal Priesthood,

A Holy Nation,

A People Set Apart."

You follow my Son, Jesus.

You are a Christian.

There are plenty of people in the world filled with hate and lust and greed ...

But you ...

You must be better than that ...

I made you better than that - for I AM THE LORD.