

HOMILY FOR THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

1. Could you ever imagine a mother forgetting her infant, her not having tenderness for her child
 - a. God says: Even if she should forget, I will not forget you
 - b. next verse: See I have carved you into the palm of my hand
 - c. not be anything as obvious as something carved in the palm of our hand
 - d. God is insisting that is how much he cares for us, there is no way he will ever forget us
2. Jesus reaffirms this
 - a. Look at the birds of the sky, God feeds them regularly; Or the beauty of wild flowers in a meadow
 - b. Even a king like Solomon with all his glorious robes would not compare in beauty
 - c. If God cares so much for things of nature that quickly disappear
 - d. How much more is He going to care for us, who are made in His image
 - e. If God feeds and clothes these gifts of nature with so much glory, why would He not care for us
3. Once we are convinced of that then we join the Psalmist as he sings in God is my soul at rest
 - a. God is my rock and my salvation: He is our true foundation, He gives us true security
 - b. He is the source of all hope for us; God has designed the universe so that we can live and thrive
4. Think of the wonder, we have the Creator of the universe, speaking to each one of us today, through the words of a prophet who lived thousands of years ago
 - a. Along with Jesus He is telling us, He loves us so much that He will never forget us
 - b. He know every need we have and will surely see to it that we have food and shelter
5. Yet We try to straddle the fence and serve both God and mammon
 - a. mammon is the personification of our thoughts that we have to control our destiny
 - i. Mammon is our worry and anxiety that we will never be secure
 - ii. Mammon is a harsh master – the more we gather, the more we worry about someone braking into our houses and stealing all we have
 - iii. All our worry and anxiety does not add a single moment to our lifespan
 - b. Irony: worry and anxiety shortens our life, while meditation and trust in God leaves us healthier
6. It is interesting how science and God tell us we can be happier and at peace if we rest in God alone
 - a. Mammon is a seductive devil who keeps whispering doubt into our minds
 - b. If I do not take care of myself who will, can I really trust God
 - c. More I listen to this devil, the more I get caught up into worry and anxiety that will destroy me
7. But our hope is that God will never forget us, each of us is carved into the palm of his hand
 - a. When we feel overwhelmed by worry and anxiety, He invites us to turn back to him
 - b. To rest in Him and realize that He alone is our hope and security
 - c. In a sense we are a battlefield between God and devil,
 - d. when we turn back to God and give to Him our worries and anxieties, then God gives us strength we need to win the war and find true security in God