



Feb. 21, 2021 Mk. 1: 12-15, Gen 9:8-15

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ENTERING THE SCENE:

Once again we embark on the season of Lent. The first reading for today is the story of Noah and the Ark. It is as if God is doing a re-boot on creation. Things are bad and the only way to remedy it is to start over. That didn't produce the desired results so once more God is trying again, but this time God is going to get personally involved by way of the Incarnation. We see Jesus resisting the re-boot method offered by the Satan and choosing another way. The way of love that suffers with the creation process so as to reveal the true nature of reality.

Jesus offers those attracted to his good news the chance to turn around (repent) and look at everything in new way. Lent invites us to do the same.

Mk. 1:9-15

9 During that time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was **baptized** in the Jordan by John. 10 **Immediately on coming up** out of the water he saw the sky **rent** in two and the **spirit descending** on him like a **dove**. 11 Then a **voice** came from the heavens: "You are my **beloved son**. On you my **favor rests**. 12 The **Spirit immediately drove him out** into the **wilderness**. 13 And he was in the wilderness **forty days, tempted by Satan**; and he was with the **wild beasts**; and the **angels ministered** to him. 14 Now after **John was arrested**, Jesus came into **Galilee**, preaching the **gospel of God**, 15 and saying, "The **time is fulfilled**, and the **kingdom of God** is at hand; **repent**, and **believe** in the **gospel**."

DISCUSSION QUESTION: John the Baptist prepares the way of the Lord. How is my Lent going to do the same?

PRAYER: Brother Jesus, you came among us to be our brother and friend and to introduce us to a deeper appreciation of God's love. You could only give us what you had, and that is the experience of being unconditionally loved. Once we got a taste of that we couldn't stay the same ever again. Help us as we enter into our own time in the desert of Lent to resist the easy fixes that the world offers and go deeper into what being loved really means for us and others. Amen.