

Thoughts on the Daily Word

16th Week of the Year. *Saturday 27th July. Readings: Jeremiah 7:1-11; Psalm 83; Matthew 13:24-30.*

Jeremiah seems to be dealing with what we call complacency. Just like the gospel story of the good seed and the darnel there is a mixture in our human life and world. Jeremiah sees this also, but he sees something else as well. A willingness to embrace both evil, such as exploiting the poor and needy, and a turning up at the national shrine, convinced that God will always understand and protect them. I think that this is a danger for our time in our Christian willingness to forgive and understand human failure. Understanding God's love for us does not take away the destructiveness of sin. We may be forgiven yet our sin can still destroy humanity in so many ways. Confession used to be seen like that, just a washing of the dirty sheet and everything is ok. Now we understand the sacrament more deeply as a journey into reconciliation, a making whole, restoring the brokenness of our nature.