

**Thoughts on the Daily Word**

17<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year. *Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July. Readings: Jeremiah 15:10,16-21; Psalm 58; Matthew 13:44-46.*

What a vision of the kingdom of God Jesus must have presented. Not a series of laws, of do's and don'ts. Something that was so satisfying that his disciples were prepared to give up everything for it. If only we had a vision of that kingdom today. We struggle for it, and we see special people taken by it, like Mother Teresa, but we find it hard to live by. Perhaps the nearest thing is what we hear from Jeremiah. The awareness of being called and chosen by God. A sense of calling and mission, in short, a vocation. It is what we seem short of today. Or maybe we just can't risk hearing that message. Like Jeremiah we just wish our mother hadn't bore us. It is risky today saying that we are called and chosen, anointed as God's messenger. Maybe that is the courage that we need.