

Daily Homily
Sts. John Fisher and Thomas More
Optional Memorial
Week Twelve in Ordinary Time, Monday
22 June 2020
[USCCB Daily Reading](#)

Here's another side of God we may not see or think of or pray about too often... God angry and God who moves on.

Now our contemporary, Christian minds wants to believe that God is merciful and full of kindness all the time. Even the Psalmist tells us that. In our hymnals, when we are allowed to have them back, we want to sing only happy and upbeat hymns about God. I do not believe there has been any contemporary Christian artist who has composed a soundtrack to reflect today's reading.

The background to this first reading: God's anger and walking away only came when time and time again His chosen people, the ones he released from slavery, the ones He walked with so closely, the ones He cherished and even spoiled with His all attentive care, well, the generations that followed those ancestors of faith, they keep saying, "No" to that covenant forged, to that faith formed. Behind their "No," is a childish bratty boy who wants his own way immediately, an adult girl who has the princess syndrome in the worse way. God has, time and time again, sent prophets to guide, to teach, to reprimand. Time and time again, the current generation won't and they don't listen. God can see what is headed their way. God wants to steer them out of danger's path. However, "stiff-necked" they continue to march onward to their demise. God aches to know what will happen if they do not mend their ways. God is in pain to know what they refuse to know as He tries to spell it out for them. God is frustrated, and God is angry. There is no angry God song in our hymnal to capture this moment. Can you imagine what that music might sound like?

What more can God do, except be honest and true – in rejection there is always anger and disappointment and sadness. One can wallow in that forever. However, what good does that do? Thank God, our God is not a "wallow-er." God, instead, will let go of His people Israel and God will move on. The rest of this story will unfold, for the most part, throughout this week.

What do we "take away" from this?

God is involved. God is invested in our life. God who created us, does not abandon us. If we listen, truly take time to listen, God will spell out what we need to know. Not necessarily what we want to know, but what we need to know. There is comfort and security and confidence in this reality.

If we are not involved in God, if we are not invested in God's life, if the creature comes to believe that the Creator is no longer needed or wanted and abandons that life force, the connection will snap. God will not snap. We will snap. If we deafen our ears to the voice of God, we will also go blind. Those are the natural consequences.

God walks before us, knows what is ahead ... God foresees the cliffs and pitfalls so that we do not fall off. God, like a Father, grows sad and angry even, if we decide to jump anyway.