

Daily Homily  
St. John Paul II, Pope  
Optional Memorial  
Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time, Friday  
22 October 2021  
[USCCB Daily Readings](#)

This Gospel is a carry-over of yesterday's Gospel. If you remember, Jesus was on a rant about how he wished that the fire and zeal that was inside of him would catch people in the same way, however, he also warned that following him will lead to division, even in families.

Today Jesus is still on a rant... still has this attitude... that is admittedly not necessarily what we want from Jesus the peacemaker, the miracle worker, the healer, the helper. Jesus with attitude is not necessarily easy to warm to. But here we are. He is even throwing around the accusatory word, "hypocrites." But he does it all in a corrective manner of love.

This rant is about awareness. We are aware of weather. We are aware of when it's hot, and we make decisions according to this, especially what we wear. We are aware of when it's cold, and we make decisions according to this, especially what to wear when we step outside. We are aware of the rain and we make decisions according to this... and so on.

If we are aware of God in the world and in our lives, then why don't we make decisions according to His presence? That's the spiritual question to take home today. Where is God in the world around you? Where is God in your life today? After answering that question what are you supposed to do about it? What decisions need to be made?

Be attentive to how Jesus does this throughout the Gospels. Be attentive to how Jesus is the presence of God in the world, and how he makes the decisions he makes when he does correct sin in individuals, when he corrects the Apostles in their dithering, when he undermines sickness and evil, when he speaks what people need to hear and enlightens them, when he takes on suffering and death and undermines it.

Be aware of God's presence in the world, and may His presence help you to make decisions to be a different kind of presence that the world needs.