

Wednesday 25 March 2020

Is.29, 16: *"You turn things upside-down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, 'He did not make me'; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, 'He has no understanding'?"*

1Pt.5, 5: *"Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another."*

A very strange scene indeed is being played out here (Is.29, 16), strange because those involved are oblivious of the fact that what they are doing is utterly absurd. But while it may be strange, nonetheless it is also very commonplace. The play is this: It's about God being pulled before the forum of man's reason and indicted – charged with malpractice and culpable neglect.

The absurdity of this becomes visible only through the revelation of God's perspective: *"How you turn things upside down!"*

Does this divine charge hit home with us? Are we tempted in our present circumstances to think of God in such terms? If so what we are doing is we turn things upside down and what we ought to be doing is stop and think again! Can we maintain that we are God and are like him? Can we maintain that he is like us and so like others subject to what we make of him? Can we maintain that the thoughts by which we make of God what we will are of the same order as God's word by which we were made? Can the formed clay deny that it received its form from the hands of the potter?

Let the absurdity of it serve to remind us that not we but God is judge and that we must not judge where we have nothing to judge, rather that we clothe ourselves, all of us, with humility. Let it clear our vision of the terms by which God has declared himself to be our faithful Saviour.