Thursday 10 September 2020

Jer.32,19: "Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind."

1Tim.4,10: "We have put our hope in the living God, who is the Saviour of all people, and especially of those who believe."

That God sees the ways of all mankind – knows where they are coming from, what's in them and where they are going – means that all mankind is answerable to God for them. As the second half of verse 19 continues: "you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve."

Or does God not see? Or will He look away? But if so, what of justice? And how can these ways (of all mankind) become just? What is "to guide our feet into the path of peace" (Lk.1,79)?

While there are those who hope that God will not see (leaving them to do things "their way" as they add sin to sin), there are those who hope, and long to hope, that the God who sees is the God who helps.

Does not the life, death and resurrection of Jesus warrant this exactly? Is not all of it, from his birth to his death and resurrection and in line with Old Testament prediction, saying 'loud and clear': "God has seen and He has come to help, and His help does not fall short"?

As Christ proved to be the Helper and Saviour to one like Zacchaeus, giving him grace and mercy by bearing his shame to make his ways just, so he is "the Saviour of all people, and especially of those who believe."