

Where's Your Chair?

Mark 13 1-8



The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune.
Psalm 16:4

Praising:

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil is builded,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power
hour by hour
is my temple and my tower.

Reading:

Mark 13:1-8

Jesus foretells the destruction of the temple

Most of the large temple stones which caught the eye of the disciples were 11 metres long, 5 metres wide and 3 metres thick. They were thrown down, as Jesus said they would be, in 70AD by the Romans. Only ruins remain, and like those of many ancient churches, abbeys and monasteries dotted around Ireland, there is little of their

former glory to boast of today. All of which bears out Jesus' warning that standard domestic materials simply won't do for building the kingdom of God. Something more lasting than bricks and mortar is called for. God is so much bigger than our best architectural attempts to honour him. In speaking so dismissively of the temple, is Jesus also intimating that in the end all such attempts will turn out to be ever so slightly pathetic?

Listening:

Praying:

Help us Lord to see beyond the restoration of our Church and Parish Centre

- to the families around us in Ballyholme and the wider community of Bangor
- to the people of Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Britain
- to the nations of Europe and all four continents of the world

Father: it's not about possessing you, or containing you, or commemorating you, it's about you building through me and in me something that will last for ever. Amen

Doing:

Friday, 11 December 2015