

Where's Your Chair?

St James the Apostle



Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great thing for them.'
The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced.'
Psalm 126:3-4

Praising:

The fisherman apostle was slain
by Herod's sword;
he drank your cup of suffering
and so fulfilled your word.
Like James may we be loyal and
serve you to the end,
and trust in you, Lord Jesus, our
Saviour and our friend.

Reading:

Matthew 20:20-28
The best seats in the house

Is it the mother's idea? Is it the
sons' idea that the mother acts
upon? What is clear, is that three
members of this family see Jesus
in Kingly, Messianic terms and
with heaven in his gift. The cup
represents God's plan. For Jesus
the cup means his passion and
death. For James and his brother,
whether that cup involves
blessing or judgment, apparently

they are ready and willing to face
it. But if all that's motivating them
to accept the cup is the promise
of really good seats in heaven,
Jesus has bad news for them.
Following Christ has nothing to
do with glory and everything to do
with service – maybe even
slavery. Between his call to
discipleship and his violent death
at the hands of Herod, James
must discover slowly and steadily
just what Christ means by that.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord grant us the humility that
seeks no recognition

- to celebrate the achievements
and accomplishments of
others before our own
- to acknowledge the wisdom
and experience we receive
from so many
- to accept appreciation and
gratitude graciously and as an
encouragement to do more

Father: I pray for a sense of the
delight and bliss of heaven, that
even now its promise may
energize me, its peace reassure
me and its overflowing worship
charge right through me. Amen

Doing:

Monday, 25 July 2016