

INTERIM THOUGHTS

“It’s Friday, but Sunday’s Comin’!”

“It’s Friday, but Sunday’s Comin’” was the title of an Easter sermon delivered in the Deep South by an avid black preacher in the rhythms and cadences of the craft, with the rousing refrain riding the crescendo of lament until the wave of unbelievable promise broke and the Good News rang forth once again: “It’s Friday . . . but Sunday’s comin’!”

The Friday in question was, of course, “Good” Friday. Had we been standing near the cross as devotees of Jesus of Nazareth, I doubt we would have called that Friday “good.” The black preacher lived a heritage that knew something about the suffering of that day. This heritage knows something, too, of the joy of resurrection. The historical DNA of liberation must hum and vibrate – perhaps dance, even – in the very soul. This is, of course, in one way or another the spiritual DNA of us all, because we live in a body of humanity for whom the central figure is the Resurrected One, liberated from death to liberate us from every death-dealing system and pattern in individual and societal life.

Because “Sunday’s comin’,” every day can be approached in a far more hope-filled and creative way. Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we know that we are on a journey that is going somewhere good. Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we know that we address our problems and cares with a power and promise beyond our own strength. Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we know that the darkness that sometimes confronts us like an impenetrable wall will be dissolved by the Light.

Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we can walk free of fear in a scary world. Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we can look at others with new reverence and respect, as every human heart is the habitation of the living Christ, or potentially so.

Because “Sunday’s comin’,” we can give ourselves wholly and without reserve to Christ. When we do, Friday’s suffering and Saturday’s death-in-waiting come to be inhabited with life-giving hope. Easter Sunday’s comin’! It’s just around the corner. Note the Holy Week schedule in this newsletter and share in the remembrance, the Communion, and the celebration. Easter is an especially poignant moment to pray our Lenten prayer: ***Let this grace operate in us, which was also in Christ Jesus*** . . . and which raised him from the dead! Will you and I experience the rising of Christlife within us? Will Friedens (Peace)?

Jerry