

The Tables are Turned

When we watch sport some of us instinctively find ourselves supporting the underdog. There is some deep joy for us in seeing those that are written off triumph at the end of the day. This appears to be a central principle of how God deals with us.

But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: 'God opposes the proud but shows favour to the humble.' (James4:6)

But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first. (Mt19:30)

It seems that it is the character of God to back those who feel discarded; those who are getting a bad deal; those who are knocked down by the tragedies of life and feel totally dispirited. They will be the final winners.

*'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted. (Mt5:2,3)*

It is the message of Easter that shame will lead to glory, that death will lead to life. It is the purpose of God to turn the tables. Paradoxically it is when we are crushed and feeling hopeless that we receive divine strength. When he was suffering badly Paul wrote:

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2Cor12:10)

It is the heart of faith to know that God is determined to see the underdog triumph. Although my situation looks dark yet the light will come, though I am knocked down yet will I stand again.

*Do not gloat over me, my enemy! Though I have fallen, I will rise.
Though I sit in darkness, the Lord will be my light. (Micah7:8)*