



THINK ON THESE THINGS..... (our contributor this morning is Brian Eyles)

Reading: Matthew 7: 24-29

Anyone who hears these words of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain poured down, the rivers over flowed, and the wind blew hard against the house. But it did not fall, because it was built on rock.

But anyone who hears these words of mine and does not obey them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain poured down, the rivers overflowed, the wind blew hard against that house , and it fell. And what a terrible fall that was'

When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowd was amazed at the way he taught. He wasn't like the teachers of the Law; instead, he taught with authority.

Reflection:

When I went to have my usual morning Costa coffee I was told in no uncertain terms to put a face mask on. It did not matter that I wanted to sit at a coffee table, the man said I should wear a mask in the queue. So, I did what he said. It was 'Face Mask Friday' and I accepted his authority when I was in his cafe.

In the Gospels Pilate had Law and Order authority. The priests had authority in the Temple. But what impressed the disciples and the crowds of followers was that Jesus had authority wherever he was; authority over disease and death; authority over evil spirits; authority over the winds and the waves. The Gospel writers made it clear that the authority of Jesus was quite exceptional.

However, it is a cheap and easy kind of faith that simply believes in Jesus Christ's authority over everything in our modern world. Each Gospel story is about the authority of Jesus where he was and with the particular people he met.

So, let us open ourselves to the authority of Jesus where we are in our particular lives; to deal with our particular fear; our grief; our failures, our gifts and opportunities; and our errors and mistakes.

Breath Prayer for today:

Lord Jesus Christ help us to submit to your authority in our lives so that we may know your love and share your compassion.