

PEACEFUL REFLECTION

When Jesus Christ arrived on the scene about two thousand years ago, it was easy to see that he was different. He had a delightful capacity for living among the men and women of his day, feeling their sorrows and enjoying their triumphs, yet avoiding their excesses and refuting their errors. He was thoroughly alive and alert, critical yet compassionate. Whether people were rich or poor appeared to concern him not at all. He seemed at ease in the midst of a group of belligerent theologians, coarse soldiers, or desperate sufferers. Composed and articulate, tough yet tender, he strode across a tiny corner of our world for a little over thirty years - and our world has never recovered from his visit.

The quality of his different life was matched only by the calibre of his shattering teaching. Living in a society uniquely rooted in tradition, he didn't hesitate to expose and explode cherished ideas where he felt such action was justified. He was death to duplicity; he hated hypocrisy. Yet he never stooped to being destructive and negative, and for one reason: He had come to reveal the truth of God through his life and his lips. This truth challenged error at every point; it exposed sin in every form; and where it challenged and exposed, it invariably changed and recycled. Those who heard him and followed him as disciples became different as he was different.....

Today we need something different to stop the acceleration of the disintegration of the life and society that we live in.

As disciples of Jesus we need to sit again at his feet and hear his Word. That will make a difference in us so radical that we will be different from our world, and the world will be changed because we passed through.