

Second Hand Preacher 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 20 17

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Some people have missile lock. This is an analogy that someone is like a missile who is locked on a target that they will stop at nothing to accomplish their goal. They are so committed to a mission that they have the ability to block out everything in order to accomplish a task. Now I believe missile lock can be of use for complicated tasks that need to be done to ensure we have a world that is better. Sometimes, God may send a person with missile lock a message to do something else. This person may even go against what may be God's will. There may even be consequences. Sometimes there may even be a life-changing event that may work on a person, even a person with missile lock.

St. Paul was certainly locked into a mission. He successfully persecuted those who were following the way of Jesus. Paul had a radical conversion and became one of the greatest evangelizing saints there ever was. He was so committed to the cause that he was called upon to die for what he believed in. He was called to minister to the Gentiles. He got locked in on this. This was against his nature, but he was successful in spreading the Good News of Jesus. Paul believes he is capable of this new behavior only because of the mercy of God.

What are our passions? Do we know how they fit into God's ultimate plan? Although it may be difficult to discern God's will often he leaves us signs of how he works in the world. We may not have a conversion as drastic as Paul's, but we can be absolutely amazed at what God has in store for us. Prayer is essential for us to communicate with God in attempt to live out his will no matter what our mission appears to be in our lives. Pray that we can be attentive to God in all the interactions we have in this life. Remember how important God's mercy is to us on our road to discipleship.