

Monday, 7 June 2021 – Weekly Inspiration from Rev. Jason

D-Day +1 (plus another 77 years). The day after the day which saw one of the largest invasion expeditions in military history. Personally, I find that I always mark the anniversary of D-Day, but perhaps of no less import is D-Day +1 (and each day that came after that). Because that was when the true work of conviction was needed. For the better part of a year, the soldiers and support personnel who made it through June 6, 1944, had to continue redoubling their efforts and beliefs in order to achieve the overall goal of standing up against a perception that people were inherently inferior due to the nature of their birth, or that one man should determine who was acceptable and who was expendable.

We've been studying our way through the Book of Acts in our Sunday School class recently, and we keep returning to Peter. Peter, who was one of the most ardent disciples, ever at the forefront with Jesus as he went about his ministry. Peter, who walked on water and was subsequently overcome by the waves. Peter, who swore to stand by Jesus, then denied him, and then was forgiven by him and tasked with continuing the work Jesus began. Peter who, in the Book of Acts, continues to give only what he has to give - nothing more and nothing less: his witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. "But Peter said, 'I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk.'" (Acts 3:6, NRSV).

All of Peter's healings, all his sermons, all his testimony comes back to this encounter; whatever may come from it, it is all he has to give. It could very well be the thing that would lead to his death, but he also knows he cannot live without proclaiming it. It is this belief that gives him life, and enables him to face whatever else the world may bring. And it is the vision of the Kingdom wrought in this testimony that leads him onward.

D-Day +1 called upon all those men and women to continue to hold their belief in a better world and a society that could be more, and let it give them strength in all the days that would follow. May our own belief give us strength, as well, and lead us to proclaim the faith we have received.

Prayer: Lord, may you be the fullness of what I proclaim, and may my belief in you lead me - and all who I encounter - to the fullness of life. Amen.