Thursday 3rd December Reflection No. 230

When Things Collapse

*Trust in the Lord forever!*

Disagreeable events are not terrible visitations to be offered up, borne with, and stood. They are benefits we can’t yet understand. And the pleasures, the agreeable projects and good books and people who take the sting out of bee bites—these too must be accepted. It’s bad asceticism to ignore the God of the agreeable, sustaining, and beautiful. He is pleased to be thanked.

Still more, what do I accept? An entire world, a healing, a mystery I am too determined to ignore. If I don’t believe in my own healing, how can I believe enough in the world’s to draw out the saving power of God? Healing depended on faith, back there in Galilee; it still does. “Do you believe that I can do this?” The world depends on confidence.

Let today’s hurt heal me.

Let today’s joy heal me.

Let my healing travel beyond my own boring diseases. Let my trust embrace friends and unknown people who struggle with the mystery of pain and inadequacy, with the suicide of a child, addictions, divorce, failure, the collapse of what they need to be. Let it worship in the strong, resilient hearts of people who greet each day at the front door and ask it in.

Lord, I believe, or at least I want to. I accept or at least I want to.

Sr. Miriam Pollard, *The Listening God*

*Miriam Pollard, OCSO, is a Sister of Santa Rita Abbey in Sonoita, Arizona.*

Fr. John