

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

Habakkuk 1: 2-3; 2: 2-4

Psalm 95: 1-2, 6-9

II Tim 1: 6-8, 13-14

Luke 17: 5-10

Michael P. Sullivan, O.S.A.

Habakkuk cried out, "How long, O Lord? I cry for help but you do not listen." How often we might want to make those words our own. Yet, beloved in Christ, the Lord always hears our pleas. Our cries before the Lord never go unheard. The problem is in the timing. We want everything now. It is all in the timing. The problem is not with the Lord, but with us. The Lord lives in the eternal now, and we are so limited in our understanding of time and God's plan for us.

Jesus tell us if we have faith the size of a mustard seed all things are possible. For myself, it is a question of waiting on the Lord. I cry out to the Lord my longings and I do believe my cries are heard and will be answered. Again, timing is the key. For over a year I had been praying for God's will to be done in a personal matter. Of course, I wanted the Lord's will to match my own. Every time I encountered the particular situation about which I had been crying out to the Lord, I prayed for the Lord's will to be done. The deadline was approaching, and on the morning when closure was about to take place contrary to my wishes, and it appeared my cries had fallen on deaf ears, the phone rang and I was informed that all came to pass as I had hoped it would. I did not know this until thirty minutes before the deadline expired. For a whole year I waited on the Lord. I wanted it now - a year ago.

We need only do our best and live God's plan for us as we understand it to be and the Lord will provide for us. If you and I live our lives doing the best we can and realizing that Jesus is master, we will not be disappointed. We are servants of the Lord and no more. Our Lord and master Jesus wants only the best for us. The only problem is that sometimes it seems that the timing stinks.