



(Food for thought: Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34.)

## **“We are a broken people”**

The ancient Israelites were a broken – yet redeemed – people wandering through the desert. They had been freed from slavery, but had not yet entered the Promised Land. That generation of desert wanderers, along with Moses, had failed because they lacked faith.

We are a broken people. We always have been. From the first moments of history, mankind has been frail against the elements, weak against his enemies, selfish and self-centered in regard to his fellow man. Deep within our beings we have always longed to become whole, to be complete, to find peace, to experience love and to give of ourselves totally to another. But we also know that we cannot achieve this on our own.

Today's Gospel, Jesus embraces everything we need to do to emerge from our brokenness and become whole. They remind us of the covenants that God has continually made with us and are a foretaste of the New Covenant that Christ has made with His blood.

We know the covenant. Let us rejoice in it. And as we approach the Eucharist let us come with thankful hearts for God and his Gift and his gifts in Jesus Christ, looking forward to resurrection and hope even as we remember the cross and suffering. For this is the good news from God. This is the New Covenant that God writes upon our hearts today. This is the blessing in which we rejoice in hope and joy.



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