

# MORNING MEDITATION

Thursday, Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time

**Being at ease with the incompleteness of our self becomes  
a source of grace and strength and peace and serenity!**

## **2 Kings 24:8-17**

Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians. The king and people were taken into captivity in Babylon. This has been understood as the result of the lack of faithfulness to the covenant that Israel had made with Yahweh. Their unity as a people with whom Yahweh, the one true God, had entered into a covenant, was always their strength. Now their unity was broken, they became unfaithful to the covenant, they looked to other sources for strength and they fell and great was the fall.....

## **Psalm 79**

**Help us, O God our savior,  
Because of the glory of your name;  
Deliver us and pardon our sins,  
for your name's sake.**

## **Mathew 7:21-29**

Fine words can never be a substitute for fine deeds. There is only one proof of love - Obedience, faithfulness. Love without obedience is an impossibility. Love without surrender is not love, yet. Faith without practice is a contradiction in terms. It is not difficult to recite the creed, but it could be difficult to live a Christian life.

Only a house whose foundation is strong can withstand the storm - only a life whose foundation is solid can survive the testing times. Response must follow the listening. Hearing is not enough - obedience to what is heard is just as important. Knowledge becomes relevant only when it is translated into action. **Knowledge must become action. Theory must become practice. Theology must become life. Spirituality must become incarnate.**

**Saint of the Day, June 25 - St. William of Vercelli and 10 other saints are remembered this day**

William was born in 1085 into a noble family of Vercelli in northwest Italy. He was orphaned as an infant and raised by relatives. At the young age of 14, he made a

pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, and decided to devote his life to God as a hermit. After he returned to Italy, he intended to go to Jerusalem and for this purpose he reached Southern Italy, but he was beaten up and robbed by thieves. William considered this misfortune a sign of God's will to stay in Southern Italy and spread the message of Christ.

He lived as a hermit for two years at Monte Solicoli, where he was credited with healing a blind man. At Monte Vergiliano, his reputation for holiness attracted many disciples, and in 1119, he established a monastery with a Rule based on the Benedictines.

He left Monte Vergiliano in 1128 because the hermit life that he sought was compromised because of the demands of ministry. Moreover, his confreres did not tolerate that lifestyle because it was too austere and full of privations. He settled on the plains in Goleto where he began a new monastic experience, a double monastery built mostly by women.

Subsequently, he founded several other monasteries of the same rule during his lifetime, but only the original survives today. He died on June 25, 1142 of natural causes.

Fr. Gus Tharappel,msfs