

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the Voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

John 5:25



One of the most fascinating aspects of Jesus' message is the way he talks about both abundance and scarcity. For Jesus, there is materially enough for all. The feeding of the 5,000, his promiscuous generosity toward outcasts and his healing ministry bear witness to God's abundance amidst poverty and inequality.

And yet, the Gospels point to one resource that is scarce: time. "Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here..." Jesus says in today's passage. Jesus speaks of the shortness of time both in terms of his own life but also in a cosmic sense. He knows his time with the disciples is very brief—and that our own time on earth is, too.

Jesus' physical presence on earth was brief; his public ministry was just three years. The Gospels convey a sense of urgency to Jesus' ministry; he is constantly rushing from one place to another, always aware of the storm clouds gathering on the horizon.

In our own lives, I believe we are called to somehow embody this Jesus-like witness to both abundance and scarcity. There really is enough for all, but time is short, the situation is urgent and we must act quickly.

Today's readings

Psalm 145:8–19 | Isaiah 49:8–15 | John 5:19–29

How can we strike a balance between embracing abundance and embodying the sense of urgency Jesus displayed in his ministry?