

Christ the King 2016

November 20

Frazee/Callaway

(From Pope Benedict)

*Remember that God did not intend Israel to have a kingdom. The law was to be Israel's king, and through the law God himself.*

*The kingdom was the result of Israel's rebellion against God. God yielded to Israel's obstinacy and so devised a new kind of king for them. The king is Jesus. In Jesus, God entered humanity and espoused humanity to himself.*

*All of this demonstrates that God does not have a fixed plan that he must carry out; on the contrary, he has many different ways of finding man and even of turning his wrong ways into right paths.*

It is possible for us to have the wrong idea about all of this. Some may think that God's plans are like a boat that launches at a specific time and in one direction. Either we are in it or we are not. And if not...we have missed the boat! There is no home and there is no point in even trying to live the faith. Most still want to be good people; they just exercise their goodness without God.

Fr. Benedict, when he was pope, wrote, *The Feast of Christ the King is not the feast of those who are subjugated but a feast of those who know that they are in the hands of the one who writes straight on crooked lines.*

A good number of people absent themselves from this assembly because they believe themselves unworthy. They need to know that God's plans are flexible enough to include everyone. God is not an unforgiving captain with one plan, but a Father who reaches down to pick up his children whenever they fall.

Jesus is in agony over those who conceive him wrongly. He is a king who is merciful and peace-giving. He is the image of the invisible God.

God loves you! How about you let God into *your* boat.