

“We grope like the blind along a wall, feeling our way like people without eyes. Even at brightest noontime, we stumble as though it were dark. Among the living, we are like the dead.” Isaiah 59:10 NLT

lectio // Isaiah 59:9-19

Alright, that settles it. Isaiah must have been an Enneagram 4! He seems to relish in his recognition of our filthy, sinful ways. And, he's not wrong about us! He is so poetically dark that it brings a certainty comfort knowing that someone gets just how good humans can do bad. He writes it with such ease, “For our sins are piled up before God and testify against us. Yes, we know what sinners we are.” Read the powerful force of his words... PILED UP, like a pile of Sh.....aving cream. Well, really like a pile of DUNG. This is what it is like to live with, for an under the law! Who can deliver anyone from this humongous gap between us and God. Get it? Exactly. None of can work ourselves out of being that level of sinner. It's deep, it's permanent, it's inescapable. The pain and struggle under the weight of our awareness is too great for anyone to bear. We HAVE to depend on a solution outside ourselves. Enter Jesus. Enter the only one is fully human and fully God. He BECAME sin for us even though he was innocent and sinless. This is the only way to make it work. The one who knew no sin became sin so that we would be free of the law that required payment, required death. Wow. Isaiah doesn't sound so negative when you see the overall plan of God to save and redeem.

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Dad,

I have never been comfortable looking at my own sin (both intentional and unintentional). I feel the weight of failure before you because you are pure, true and holy. But I do understand and have accepted the fact that I stand before you clean, forgiven and redeemed. Death is not my reward, life is my reward. I live in constant awareness of my sin and my redemption!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root