

George W. Bush in an airport lobby, noticed a man in a long, flowing, white robe with a long, flowing, white beard and long, flowing, white hair. The man had a staff in one hand and some stone tablets under the other arm. George W., struck by the man's appearance, approached the man and asked "Aren't you Moses?" The man ignored George W. and stared at the ceiling. George W., unaccustomed to being ignored, positioned himself more directly in the man's view and asked again, "Aren't you Moses?" The man continued staring at the ceiling. George W. then tugged at the man's sleeve and asked once again, "Aren't you Moses?" The man finally responded in an irritated voice, "Yes I am." George W. asked him why he ignored him and the man replied, "The last time I spoke to a bush I had to spend forty years in the desert!"

Moses had a bad time of it in the desert and no one should hold it against him if didn't want to experience it again.

Explaining God's ways are difficult to people who do not wish to change.

Obedying God always seems to be a battle and forty years is a long journey.

In our second reading, Paul tells the Ephesians to turn away from their former way of life and turn toward Christ. He says to "put on the new self". What does that mean? At Baptism, the newly baptized are given a white garment. The prayer from the Baptism ritual says it all.

READ FROM THE RITE: We are called to be Christ to others. If Jesus is going to answer prayers, He must do it through committed Christians.

And to take it a step further we read in Revelations 7:9 of the triumph of the elect.

They were rewarded for being Christ to others.

Not an easy task. In fact it requires us to be in a constant battle with Satan.

So we need a food for this spiritual journey and that where THE BREAD OF LIFE COMES IN.

Jesus tells the people that they are misunderstanding what God wishes to give them. They are thinking of material things.

So too for us it is easy to go through the motions as we approach the altar to receive the precious BREAD OF LIFE. The big question for us today is do we see the Eucharist as an essential diet for **our spiritual battle of trying to be Christ to others?**

Do we see ourselves in a battle to live out our Baptismal calling?

When I was Confirmed we were told that we were called to be soldiers of Christ.

Let us pray for a better awareness of who we really are and of how God is always providing food for our spiritual journey through the desert.