

Darlleniad/Reading: Marc/Mark 6: 14-24

Gweddi / Prayer:

Tyrd atom ni yn nawr, wrth i ni geisio dy addoli, a thrwy dy drugaredd rho arweiniad i ni yn ystod y dyddiau sydd o'n blaen. Helpa ni i dyfu'n gryfach mewn ffydd, a bod yn ddisgyblion mwy ymroddedig, yn ffyddlonach yn ein gwasanaeth i Grist.

Come to us now as we seek to worship you, and through your mercy give us guidance for the days ahead. Help us to grow stronger in faith, more committed in discipleship, more faithful in the service of Christ.

A gofynnwn hyn oll yn ei enw glân a sanctaidd Ef. Amen

Myfyrdod / Meditation:

“For Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.” *Mark 6:20*

Mae pregethu'r gair yn gallu bod yn rymus o hyd. Roedd Ioan Fedyddiwr wedi dechrau ar ei weinidogaeth fel dyn hollol ddi-nod ac anhysbys i bawb. Pregethu yn yr anialwch heb ryw lawer o gynulleidfa o gwbl yn talu sylw ac yn gwrandao ar ei neges.

But soon, John's message and preaching became so powerful and effective that crowds came to “hang” on every word that he spoke. Indeed, his preaching had so much effect that people of all ranks in society came to be baptized by him in the river Jordan – sinners and soldiers – even some of the Scribes and Pharisees came to be baptised by him.

Mae'n rhybuddio nhw bod eu hachau teuluol nhw ddim yn sicrhau bendithion y deyrnas newydd yn ddi-amod. Rwy'n clywed rhai yn ymfalchïo yn eu tras capellog nhw – “roedd fy nhad a'm tad-cu yn ddiaconiaid ac yn swyddogion blaenllaw yn y capel” Gwych o beth! Dwi ddim yn dilorni hynny am eiliad, ac mae'n dda o beth i fod yn falch o'n gwreiddiau a'n teulu. Ond dyma'r pwynt pwysig, 'dyw eu ffydd a'u llafur a'u gwaith a'u hymroddiad nhw, (ein cyndeidiau), ddim yn sicrhau achubiaeth i fy enaid tragwyddol i!

Herod himself hears of John, and we see this cruel and corrupt King sitting humbly at the feet of John to listen to his message. And John doesn't change his preaching at all – he uses the same language and boldness which he'd used with the common people. This plain and unadulterated preaching of the word was used to awaken Herod's conscience.

Y peth tristaf yw'r ffaith na chafodd Herod mo'i argyhoeddi yn gyfan. Fe ddeffrodd ei gydwyl, do, fe blannodd yr hadau, do, ond daeth dim ffrwyth yn ei achos e.

What can we learn from this narrative? Beth sydd gan Herod ei hun, o bawb, i ddangos i ni am ein perthynas â Iesu Grist?

Dau beth yn unig sydd gen i i rannu â chi heddiw – two headings for you today – Firstly, the great privilege and blessing of hearing the Word of God / Braint a bendith o glywed Gair Duw. And secondly, the great responsibility which comes with hearing the Word / y cyfrifoldeb mawr sy'n dod yn sgil clywed y Gair.

1. Felly'n gyntaf, breintiau a bendithion o glywed gair Duw / the privilege and blessing of hearing the word of God.

“Blessed are the ears which hear the things that we hear; and blessed are the eyes which see the things we see.” That was message of the prophets from Old Testament days, and if we reflect on the preaching of the Word of God, we’ll soon realise that we are highly privileged in hearing it.

Mae angen bwyd a diod ar bob un ohonon ni i fyw yn gorfforol, ac mae Gair Duw yn cael ei ddisgrifio’n aml fel maeth, manna o’r nefoedd – bwyd a diod i’n bywydau ysbrydol ni.

In the same way as we all need food for our physical well-being, we also need heavenly sustenance for our spiritual needs – “Bread of Heaven, feed me now and ever more” (not Till I want no more!)

Ie, boed i ninnau hefyd cael yr “archwaeth” ‘ma i gyfranogi o fara’r bywyd wedi’i anfon o’r nef fel manna gynt.

And not only as food, but also in Scripture we find the word of God compared to a light “Y bobl a rhodiasant mewn tywyllwch a welsant oleuni mawr” / “they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”

As well as a torch and light, the word arises with “healing in his wings”, as the words of the familiar Christmas carol say. What a privilege and blessing it is to hear the word of God as food, and as light, and as spiritual healing to us all.

Mae gweledigaeth Eseciel yn dod i’r meddwl wrth sôn am wrando ar Air yr Arglwydd. Chi ‘gyd yn cofio ei weledigaeth fawr yn Nyffryn Hinnom gyda’r esgyrn sychion, heb fywyd nac ysbryd ynddyn nhw. A’r gân boblogaidd sydd wedi’i llunio o gwmpas yr hanes “Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones. Now hear the word of the Lord!”

Just as life was given to the dry bones in Ezekiel’s vision – life is given through the preaching of the Word of God. Surely, this consideration alone should be enough for us to say that it’s a great privilege and blessing to hear the Word of God.

2. So, after realizing the privilege and blessing of hearing the word of God, my second point will hopefully speak more specifically to our consciences – the responsibility which comes with hearing the Word / Y cyfrifoldeb sy’n dod yn sgil clywed y Gair.

Herod, you remember from the words of our text, went just as far as many of us, and perhaps even further than some, and yet, for all that, was still a lost soul.

Mae ein cyfrifoldeb ni ynglŷn â Gair Duw yn mynd llawer ymhellach na dim ond ei glywed. Roedd Herod wedi clywed gair Duw, ond mae clywed yn unig ddim yn ddigonol. Mae modd i rywun eistedd mewn capel am hanner can mlynedd, yn clywed a gwranddo ar Air Duw, ond os yw’r cyfan yn dod i ben gyda’r gwranddo yn unig – wel, gai fod mor hy ag awgrymu bod hynny’n gallu bod yn waeth na heb glywed o gwbl!

There are many who feel that they’ve fulfilled all their religious duties by simply going to church or chapel. It’s certainly a help, it’s certainly a start, but if it begins and ends there, the whole effort is worthless. Perhaps this period of not being able to attend places of worship has helped focus the minds of some on what’s really important in our religion and Christian witness.

'Falle bod rhai yn dweud, "nid yn unig rwy'n mynd i'r capel, ond rwy'n gwrando yn llawen hefyd! Rwy'n hapus iawn i glywed gair Duw, ac yn cael pleser a boddhad anghyffredin wrth wrando ar bregeth." Onid yw hynny'n ddigon – y ffaith 'mod i'n llawenhau wrth wrando ar yr efengyl?

Again, it's a help and a start, and certainly a hopeful sign to be a glad and happy listener, but doesn't our text say that Herod also heard the word "gladly"?

And more than that, some may say "I not only listen gladly, but I respect the word of God as well. But wasn't it the same with Herod also? Listen to the words of the text again, "Knowing that John was a righteous and holy man, he kept him safe." He protected him. But, although he honoured and even protected the preacher of the word, he was still lost!

Hyd yn oed ymhellach na hynny, bydd rhai yn dweud, "rwy'n teimlo fel person gwell ar ôl clywed gair Duw, ac mae'n dwysbigio fy nghydwylbod i" onid yw hynny'n arwydd dda? Ydy, mae'n arwydd dda, ond cofiwch am eiriau'r testun eto, "a byddai Herod yn gwrando arno'n llawen, er ei fod, ar ôl gwrando, mewn penbleth fawr."

Do you remember the account of Felix before Paul? "Felix was afraid and said, "That's enough for now! You may leave. When I find it convenient, I will send for you." Ie, rhy hwyr, rhyw hwyr! Almost persuaded to be a Christian.

Well, if all these things aren't enough in themselves, what is expected of the hearer of the word?

Gai awgrymu wrthoch chi heddiw, bod rhaid inni gyd fod yn weithredwyr y gair yn ogystal â gwrandawyr yn unig. Doers as well as hearers!

Chi'n cofio'r Adroddiadau Blynyddol ers lawer dydd gyda nifer y "gwrandawyr" wedi nodi ynddo? O ie, bydde fe'n hyfryd o beth i gael llwyth o wrandawyr ar y galeri fel yn y dyddiau a fu, ond anfon gweithredwyr hefyd! Dyna beth sydd angen arnom yw gweithredwyr y gair.

We must also hear it personally, not for others, but for ourselves, personally. We must all be like Zacchaeus when Jesus said to him "Zacchaeus, make hast and come down, for today I must abide in your house".

Ac yn olaf, wedi gwrando'n ufudd gan weithredu, ac wedi gwrando'n bersonol, mae'n rhaid i ni wrando gan gredu a derbyn Iesu ar ei air. Credu a derbyn y Gair a lefarwyd wrthon ni – "gan gredu yn rhinweddau'r gwaed a gweithio gwaith y nef."

A hynny er gogoniant i'w Enw.

Amen.