

One of the tests that used to be performed on a transmission was a durability test. In essence, what happened was, a car was put on rollers; and was shifted from drive to reverse ... back and forth ... drive and reverse.

This was done until the transmission self-destructed from the stress put on it.

Most definitely a worst-case scenario - after all - most people at least stop their car before trying to radically change direction.

In today's reading from the prophet Isaiah, we hear another prophecy regarding the coming time of the Messiah.

The forest becomes an orchard - and orchards become forests.

The deaf hear - and the blind see.

A total reversal of apparently irreversible situations.

And it can only be assumed that for roughly 700 years - until the time of Christ - the people of Israel debated what this all might mean. Was it a metaphor? How could something like this happen in real-life without things completely self-destructing?

Yet in the Gospel, we hear how it happens. Our Lord heals two blind men with a touch.

Not a metaphor. And not by tearing things apart.

We often avoid the transforming power of God's love because we fear that once God is done with us, we won't recognize ourselves in the end-result.

There is nothing to fear.

Today, as we approach this altar to receive the Eucharist - let us ask Our Lord to touch our lives, our hearts, our souls - in those areas where we need a complete reversal ... trusting in His tender mercy to gently transform us ... according to His will.