

A deceased priest friend of mine who died in his 90s used to always say: "When people turn their backs on God, the first thing they lose is their reason."

The prophet Jeremiah, speaking for the Lord, points out how Israel agreed to follow God's Law, yet ignored God's Law and followed their own way.

In the Gospel, as Jesus does healings and exorcisms, some in the crowd claims His power came from the devil. Others demanded he do further signs and miracles.

When we live within God's will, people will oppose us. The world demands that we jump through its hoops and live by its ways.

There is always a choice.

The reasoned choice is to live by God's Law.

It won't make us rich. It won't make us popular. It won't give us power.

But it will make us happy.

The unreasonable choice is to live in misery and negativity with the rest of the world.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us examine our own lives. Where we are suffering, let us invite the Divine Physician to heal us. Let us follow the will of God in all things - regardless of the world's popular opinion.