

Thought for the Month

July 2021

July is the month when the more privileged people of the world welcome the opportunity to 'get away from it all', and for some that means the chance to travel as far from home as possible. On the contrary the less fortunate, the dispossessed, the refugees, the persecuted, long for the chance to settle down in a place they can call home. They are tired of travelling.

But St Paul's travel plans were made for him by Jesus: his remit was to preach the Gospel to the idolaters of the Roman world, suffering, as he says, every kind of hardship, including imprisonment and public beatings. What a foreign holiday that was! And there was none of the joy many of us have experienced – the joy of coming home.

Some of us may not be travelling far during this customary holiday period, but we are all pilgrims on a journey,
'With Jesus as our fellow
To Jesus as our head.'

Geoff Gibbens