

Thursday 5th August 2021

Jer.23,28: "Let the prophet who has a dream recount the dream, but let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?, declares the LORD."

1Cor.2,4-5: "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."

The word that the prophet is to proclaim to the people is from the mouth of God (v.16), it reflects the council of the LORD (v.18). The prophet who has not this word relies for inspiration on his dreams. They seem to him of divine origin and he is satisfied that the message he constructs on the strength of his dreams communicates the will of God for the people. The truth, however, is that it is self-inspired and that the reason it is attractive has everything to do with its knack to please human wisdom.

To feed on such self-inspiration, however attractively packaged or convincing in its appearance, makes for spiritual mal-nourishment. What is the antidote but that which is God-inspired – his word?

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."
(2Tim.3,16.17)