Reflecting on a Disaster

I have an old friend in Scotland, whom I often send articles and letters to, before they are published in newspapers, magazines, or online.

Bunny, who lives in St. Andrews does the same, sends papers to me in return. The enclosed is one of her latest which I have decided to print, because of the world situation at the moment. We only have to think of Nepal and Tibet to understand what Bunny is saying:

“I have been watching recordings of the TV sitcom ‘The Last of the Summer Wine’ and stepping back in time to watch three elderly men from Yorkshire make sense of their world, while reminiscing about their childhood days.

The first episode went out in Jan 1973 and the last in August 2010. As I watched their antics and listened to their meandering conversations, I began to realise how the world had changed from their childhood to the worlds 1973 and 2010, and also how it has changed for those of us still here since then. (Bunny is in her 90's) What have we done to God's wonderful world. It was only yesterday we were pooh-poohing the scientists' warnings, and now they seem to be coming true.

Perhaps it is time to stop, look and listen, instead of inventing more and more ways of changing the world, and spend our energy, money and time in making sure that everyone has somewhere to live, enough to eat and time to share life with those around them.

As we read the scientists' predictions for the future, should all of us - old men and women, those in power, youngsters in school, university in fact all of us, just stop and ask ourselves and each other: "What would Jesus do?" Let's look at how he spent his time in the world. See what he promised us and ask for his help as the world rushes onwards to greater disasters.

When we pray for those affected by disasters, like Nepal and Tibet, let us remember that this is part of us, for we are involved, as tenants of God's creation”.

