



# Daily Reflections

**June 6, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Tobit 2: 9-14**

On the night of Pentecost, after I had buried the dead,  
I, Tobit, went into my courtyard  
to sleep next to the courtyard wall.

My face was uncovered because of the heat.

I did not know there were birds perched on the wall above me,  
till their warm droppings settled in my eyes, causing cataracts.

I went to see some doctors for a cure

but the more they anointed my eyes with various salves,  
the worse the cataracts became,  
until I could see no more.

For four years I was deprived of eyesight, and  
all my kinsmen were grieved at my condition.

Ahiqar, however, took care of me for two years,  
until he left for Elymais.

At that time, my wife Anna worked for hire  
at weaving cloth, the kind of work women do.

When she sent back the goods to their owners, they would pay her.

Late in winter on the seventh of Dystrus,  
she finished the cloth and sent it back to the owners.

They paid her the full salary

and also gave her a young goat for the table.

On entering my house the goat began to bleat.

I called to my wife and said: "Where did this goat come from?"

Perhaps it was stolen! Give it back to its owners;  
we have no right to eat stolen food!"  
She said to me, "It was given to me as a bonus over and above my wages."  
Yet I would not believe her,  
and told her to give it back to its owners.  
I became very angry with her over this.  
So she retorted: "Where are your charitable deeds now?  
Where are your virtuous acts?  
See! Your true character is finally showing itself!"

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

In today's text, we see the old saying, "No good deed goes unpunished" displayed vividly. First, after having buried a dead stranger, an exhausted Tobit fell asleep outside in the courtyard of his home. Birds perched above him drop their feces into Tobit's eyes irritating them and eventually causing blindness. How unfair it would seem for this to happen to a holy man who had just risked his life to do a good deed for a stranger. Second, Tobit's wife Anna, a seamstress, had done outstanding work and was given a bonus in the form of a lamb for her work. When Tobit discovered the lamb and because he suffered from scrupulous thinking, took Anna to task accusing her of having stolen the lamb. Anna, as you might imagine, was deeply hurt. Even though Tobit was a pious man, he was not free from sin.

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## **Food for your Journey**

The way to grow in holiness is to be around people more holy than ourselves. We hear their stray comments and absorb their judgment of what's important. We listen to their prayers and find that God is bigger than we'd thought.

—Oswald Chambers.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Living Your way brings great joy at times but sometimes I experience hardships as well. Lord, You called me to pick up and carry my cross each day. Keep me faithful and true despite the cost. Amen.