



# Daily Reflections

**June 28, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 7: 15-20**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves.

By their fruits you will know them.

Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?

Just so, every good tree bears good fruit, and a rotten tree bears bad fruit.

A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a rotten tree bear good fruit.

Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

So by their fruits you will know them."

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## Our Scripture Reflection

For many centuries, the Jewish people had to contend with false prophets. They were men who while on the King's payroll said what the King wanted to hear. They did not know the truth! Jesus gave some practical wisdom to His disciples when He instructed them to test a person's worth by the manner in which that person lived their life.

## **Food for your Journey**

The way the Secret Service trains its agents to recognize counterfeit bills is not by teaching them to look for counterfeits, as you may expect, but to look for the real thing. The idea is that if an agent learns to recognize all the characteristics of a genuine bill, spotting a counterfeit will be a simpler task. If it doesn't look exactly like the real thing, it's a fake.

In much the same way, prophets like John the Baptist have an unerring eye for that which is true. Some may think prophets spend all their time rooting out that which is false, but they do not. A true prophet is so consistently in tune with God's truth that any competing "truth" looks tawdry by comparison.

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### **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Help me to live a virtuous life. May I do so by living as You lived. Amen.