



Daily Reflections

August 1, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 13: 36-43

Jesus dismissed the crowds and went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the Kingdom. The weeds are the children of the Evil One, and the enemy who sows them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his Kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus explained to His disciples the meaning of His parable of the "Weeds and Wheat." His Father allows evil (weeds) to exist in the world alongside all that

is good. Therein lies the dilemma of Christian existence. Trying to live the Christian life is a struggle at times because of the presence of evil in the world. God's Grace, however, will see us through. In the end at harvest time, God's justice will make all things right.

Our job while we wait for the "Harvest Master's" return is to remain faithful despite the cost.

Food for your Journey

The final homily given by Francois Marty, Cardinal Archbishop of Paris, at his retirement party, concluded with an anecdote.

"Recently an old Aveyron friend was operated on for cataracts. A few weeks later he returned home. On his arrival at the house, he caught sight of his grandson. He saw him with new eyes. And he exclaimed: 'Oh, my little Jean, I never knew you were so beautiful!'

"Blessed be the Lord who, in the evening of my life, gives me a fleeting insight into man's heart as it really is. I never knew it was so beautiful!"

-(As quoted in Evelyn Woodward,

Poets, Prophets and Pragmatists: A New Challenge to Religious Life

(Notre Dame, Indiana: Ave Maria Press, 1987), 105-6.

How are you "seeing" life and the world? In terms of wheat or weeds?

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Pour forth Your Amazing Grace upon me so that I may walk each step in union with You. Amen.