



# Daily Reflections

**August 22, 2017**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 19: 23-30**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Amen, I say to you, it will be hard for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of heaven.

Again I say to you,

it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the Kingdom of God."

When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and said, "Who then can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said,

"For men this is impossible, but for God all things are possible."

Then Peter said to him in reply,

"We have given up everything and followed you. What will there be for us?"

Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life.

But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Trust in God is at the heart of today's Gospel. We try to find security in "stuff", our possessions. But only God can save us, especially when it comes to our eternal salvation. Now is the time to surrender, that is, turn everything over to Our Lord.

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## **Food for your Journey**

C.S. Lewis once pondered this. If the children of God were always saved from floods like believing Noah and his family; if every time somebody pointed a gun at a Christian, the gun just turned to salami; if we really had a money-back guarantee against hatred, disease and the acts of terrorists, then of course we wouldn't have to worry about church growth. Our churches would fill with people attracted to the faith for secondary reasons. These are people who want an insurance agent, not a church. For security, they want Colin Powell, not God. We already have people becoming Christians because they want to get rich or get happy. What would happen to people's integrity if becoming a believer really did give you blanket protection against poverty, accident and the wages of sin?

--Cornelius Plantinga Jr., "Can God be trusted?" Christianity Today, June 15, 1998.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Please give me the Grace to stop trying to control everything in this life. May I surrender my life to You and trust You in all things. Amen.