



Daily Reflections

August 31, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 24: 42-51

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house

had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,

he would have stayed awake

and not let his house be broken into.

So too, you also must be prepared,

for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

"Who, then, is the faithful and prudent servant,

whom the master has put in charge of his household

to distribute to them their food at the proper time?

Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so.

Amen, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property.

But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is long delayed,'

and begins to beat his fellow servants,

and eat and drink with drunkards,

the servant's master will come on an unexpected day

and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely

and assign him a place with the hypocrites,

where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus used the metaphor of the thief in order to teach His disciples about the meaning of discipleship. As disciples they were to be servants who were faithful to the work assigned to them. If they were, then the sudden return of their Master would not be an occasion of fear, but rather, joy. Being prepared eliminates anxiety.

Food for your Journey

Winston Churchill once nodded off during the speech of a fellow member of the House of Commons. The member who was speaking noticed Churchill's head drooping and startled him awake by asking in a loud voice: "Must you fall asleep when I am speaking?"

Churchill replied. "It is purely voluntary."

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You have blessed me with many simple but precious gifts, especially time and my talents. Help me to use them for Your glory. May I strive to produce a harvest that is pleasing to You. Amen.