



Daily Reflections

September 21, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 9: 9-13

As Jesus passed by,
he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post.
He said to him, "Follow me."
And he got up and followed him.
While he was at table in his house,
many tax collectors and sinners came
and sat with Jesus and his disciples.
The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples,
"Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
He heard this and said,
"Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do.
Go and learn the meaning of the words,
I desire mercy, not sacrifice.
I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Our Scripture Reflection

There is a real irony in today's Gospel text. The one who appeared to be the sinner, Matthew the tax collector, was actually the one who was "right" or righteous before God. It was he who turned to Jesus with immediacy. And who really was the sinner?? The Pharisee, who while thinking he was righteous, was actually the sinner because of the filthy feelings in his heart.

Food for your Journey

Someone confessed the problem he was having in getting people to forget his personal problems: "It's hard to bury your past when everybody's got a shovel."

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I so often do what I know I should not do, and I don't do so often what I know I should do. Cleanse my heart of all sin this day, Lord, and help me to live the way You want me to live. Amen.