



Daily Reflections

October 12, 2017

Scripture

Malachi 3: 13-20

You have defied me in word, says the LORD,
yet you ask, "What have we spoken against you?"
You have said, "It is vain to serve God,
and what do we profit by keeping his command,
And going about in penitential dress
in awe of the LORD of hosts?
Rather must we call the proud blessed;
for indeed evildoers prosper,
and even tempt God with impunity."
Then they who fear the LORD spoke with one another,
and the LORD listened attentively;
And a record book was written before him
of those who fear the LORD and trust in his name.
And they shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts,
my own special possession, on the day I take action.
And I will have compassion on them,
as a man has compassion on his son who serves him.
Then you will again see the distinction
between the just and the wicked;
Between the one who serves God,
and the one who does not serve him.
For lo, the day is coming, blazing like an oven,
when all the proud and all evildoers will be stubble,

And the day that is coming will set them on fire,
leaving them neither root nor branch,
says the LORD of hosts.
But for you who fear my name, there will arise
the sun of justice with its healing rays.

Our Scripture Reflection

What does it mean to "fear" the Lord? The Hebrew word for fear "Yirat" can be translated in two ways: "to be afraid of" or "to have a sense of awe and reverence for." The Prophet Malachi speaks out against the arrogant, proud and haughty who have neither respect nor reverence for God. He warns them that they will face the justice of God. On the other hand, those who love God and are humble before Him will be treated as His "special possession" on the day that He metes out His justice.

Food for your Journey

If there be anywhere on earth a lover of God who is always kept safe from falling, I know nothing of it -- for it was not shown me. But this was shown -
- that in falling and rising again we are always kept in the same precious love.

--Julian of Norwich, Revelations of Divine Love, from Daily Readings with Julian of Norwich(Templegate, 1985), 69.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You revealed the awesomeness of Your love by giving Your life completely for my salvation. May I always be humble and grateful before You.
Amen.