



Daily Reflections

October 26, 2017

Scripture

Luke 12: 49-53

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I have come to set the earth on fire,
and how I wish it were already blazing!
There is a baptism with which I must be baptized,
and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!
Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?
No, I tell you, but rather division.
From now on a household of five will be divided,
three against two and two against three;
a father will be divided against his son
and a son against his father,
a mother against her daughter
and a daughter against her mother,
a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

Our Scripture Reflection

For the life of me, I cannot understand how someone could say they are Christian and in the same breath profess to be "pro-choice" (that is, pro-abortion). Jesus is the Lord and giver of life. In fact, He gave His own life for our eternal life. Yet, there are those who would choose to crush life at its

most vulnerable and precious stage. So, my Friends, believing and following Jesus will be a cause for division, for Jesus and life or against Jesus and life.

Food for your Journey

In his book *Your God Is Too Small*, J.B. Phillips, rips into the "meek and mild" vocabulary sometimes used about Jesus: "Why 'mild'? Of all the epithets that could be applied to Christ this seems one of the least appropriate. For what does 'mild,' as applied to a person, conjure up to our minds? Surely a picture of someone who wouldn't say 'boo' to the proverbial goose; someone who would let sleeping dogs lie and avoid trouble wherever possible; someone of a placid temperament who is almost a stranger to the passions of red-blooded humanity; someone who is a bit of a nonentity, both uninspired and uninspiring.

"This word 'mild' is apparently deliberately used to describe a man who did not hesitate to challenge and expose the hypocrisies of the religious people of his day: a man who had such 'personality' that he walked unscathed through a murderous crowd; a man so far from being a nonentity that he was regarded by the authorities as a public danger; a man who could be moved to violent anger by shameless exploitation or by smug complacent orthodoxy; a man of such courage that he deliberately walked to what he knew would mean death, despite the earnest pleas of well-meaning friends! Mild! What a word to use for a personality whose challenge and strange attractiveness nineteen centuries have by no means exhausted. Jesus Christ might well be called 'meek,' in the sense of being selfless and humble and utterly devoted to what he considered right, whatever the personal cost; but 'mild,' never!"

--J.B. Phillips, *Your God Is Too Small* (New York: Macmillan Paperbacks Edition, 1961),

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, In a world where so many are opposed to You and Your way, help me to remain faithful and true to You. Help me to be a courageous witness to You despite the cost. Amen.