



Daily Reflections

November 4, 2017

Scripture

Luke 14:1, 7-11

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. He told a parable to those who had been invited, noticing how they were choosing the places of honor at the table. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited by him, and the host who invited both of you may approach you and say, 'Give your place to this man,' and then you would proceed with embarrassment to take the lowest place. Rather, when you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Our Scripture Reflection

Jockeying for position and striving to be noticed were indications of a spiritual defect in Jesus' day as they are in our own day. And what is that defect? The lack of humility. When I have not surrendered my life to God then I attempt to control things. When I continue to do so, I will ultimately fall. Our Lord teaches us that real esteem, not self-manipulated esteem, is bestowed on us by others. But most important of all is how we stand before God. His desires for me must always be the rationale and motivation for all that I do.

Food for your Journey

NFL quarterback Tim Tebow became one of the most instantly recognizable figures in professional sports with his distinctive attitude of prayer at the sidelines of football games: down on one knee, fist to his forehead. In 2011, a fan website invited readers to submit their own photos of people "tebowing" -- assuming the same attitude -- and an Internet meme was born. According to TIME magazine, in the first two and half months of its existence, the website received an astonishing 20,000 photograph submissions of people tebowing in all sorts of places. During that time, the site had 20 million page views from two million unique visitors.

Tebow's very public acts of devotion ignited a debate over humility and religious practice. Was the athlete aware of the cameras as he dropped to one knee in prayer, or would he have done the same thing in any event?

--Tebowing statistics from Ira Stoll, "Tebowing.com founder begins his off-season," TIME, January 18, 2012, <http://business.time.com/2012/01/18/tebowing-com-founder-begins-his-off-season>. Retrieved April 1, 2013.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You are my Lord and Savior! Help me, Lord, to use my time and talent to please You this day. May all of my efforts give You glory. Amen.