



Daily Reflections

November 17, 2017

Scripture

Luke 17: 26-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As it was in the days of Noah,
so it will be in the days of the Son of Man;
they were eating and drinking,
marrying and giving in marriage up to the day
that Noah entered the ark,
and the flood came and destroyed them all.
Similarly, as it was in the days of Lot:
they were eating, drinking, buying,
selling, planting, building;
on the day when Lot left Sodom,
fire and brimstone rained from the sky to destroy them all.
So it will be on the day the Son of Man is revealed.
On that day, someone who is on the housetop
and whose belongings are in the house
must not go down to get them,
and likewise one in the field
must not return to what was left behind.
Remember the wife of Lot.
Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it,
but whoever loses it will save it.
I tell you, on that night there will be two people in one bed;
one will be taken, the other left.

And there will be two women grinding meal together;
one will be taken, the other left."
They said to him in reply, "Where, Lord?"
He said to them, "Where the body is,
there also the vultures will gather."

Our Scripture Reflection

In today's Gospel text Jesus teaches the crowds about the coming of the Kingdom at the end of time. And although they would like a precise schedule in terms of the time and date of the end, Jesus gives no such information. The Kingdom will come with suddenness and when least expected. The stance of the true disciple is to be vigilant and ready.

Food for your Journey

In Jesus Christ his followers have witnessed the kingdom of God breaking in on earth. They have seen Satan crushed and the powers of the world, sin and death broken. The kingdom of God is still exposed to suffering and strife. The little flock has a share in that tribulation. They stand under the sovereignty of God in the new righteousness, but in the midst of persecution. God grant that the kingdom of Jesus Christ may grow in his church on earth, God hasten the end of the kingdoms of this world, and establish his own kingdom in power and glory!

--Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship* (Macmillan, 1966), 184-85.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You have placed me in this life with work to do as Your disciple. Help me to use my time and talent wisely so that I may produce a harvest that is pleasing to You. Amen.