



Daily Reflections

February 17, 2018

Scripture

Isaiah 58: 9-14

Thus says the LORD:

If you remove from your midst oppression,
false accusation and malicious speech;

If you bestow your bread on the hungry
and satisfy the afflicted;

Then light shall rise for you in the darkness,
and the gloom shall become for you like midday;

Then the LORD will guide you always
and give you plenty even on the parched land.

He will renew your strength,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring whose water never fails.

The ancient ruins shall be rebuilt for your sake,
and the foundations from ages past you shall raise up;

"Repairer of the breach," they shall call you,
"Restorer of ruined homesteads."

If you hold back your foot on the sabbath
from following your own pursuits on my holy day;

If you call the sabbath a delight,
and the LORD's holy day honorable;

If you honor it by not following your ways,
seeking your own interests, or speaking with malice

Then you shall delight in the LORD,

and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will nourish you with the heritage of Jacob, your father.

Our Scripture Reflection

The lack of sincerity is an example of the human attempt to control one's life. How so? The attitude of insincerity says to God, "I don't need You, I'll do it my way because I know what's best for my life." The irony of this attitude is that my life does not belong to me! Because all that I am and all that I have belongs to God, I must seek His mercy and His forgiveness when I try to go it on my own. That's the essence of true repentance.

Food for your Journey

In 2001, an 18-month-old child named Josie King died after Johns Hopkins Hospital failed to treat her adequately for severe dehydration.

"I was ready for a bloodbath," says Josie's mother to The Wall Street Journal (May 18, 2004). "Had they tried to sweep this under the rug, we could have — and we had the resources and I would have — done anything to destroy them."

But within a few days, the director of the Children's Center came to the King home, apologized and took full responsibility for the fatal mistake. So instead of suing, the family settled out of court and donated much of the settlement to the hospital to spend on improving the safety of young patients.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I do not deserve the gift of Your love, yet You love me anyway. Humble me, Lord, so that I may become grateful for all that You give me. Amen