



# Daily Reflections

**March 17, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Jeremiah 11: 18-20**

I knew their plot because the LORD informed me;  
at that time you, O LORD, showed me their doings.  
Yet I, like a trusting lamb led to slaughter,  
had not realized that they were hatching plots against me:  
"Let us destroy the tree in its vigor;  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will be spoken no more."  
But, you, O LORD of hosts, O just Judge,  
searcher of mind and heart,  
Let me witness the vengeance you take on them,  
for to you I have entrusted my cause!

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## Our Scripture Reflection

Yes, Jeremiah would love to be able to watch those who have hurt him suffer. After all, he was only doing God's bidding in preaching repentance to the wicked. But it was God's fight. God was in control. What, how and when God would deal with His enemies was His business, His plan. Jeremiah did his part by preaching, now it was God's turn to respond and that would happen in His time, not Jeremiah's.

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## **Food for your Journey**

We don't like to wait. This is even true in our spiritual life. We want to grow in virtue and character, but maturity is not something that happens overnight. We must wait for it, patiently wait for it. To wait without distress requires patience. But having patience is as difficult as waiting. One source says that patience is the "quality of being willing to bear adversities, calm endurance of misfortune, suffering, etc." It comes directly from the Latin *patientia*, meaning "endurance, submission" -- or literally "suffering" or the "quality of suffering." Ambrose Bierce, in his whimsical book, *The Devil's Dictionary*, said this of patience: "Patience, n. A minor form of despair, disguised as a virtue." No wonder, then, that waiting is so difficult. It requires that we be patient, that is, that we suffer to the point of despair. Who wants to do that?

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Teach me to be patient. I lack humility and expect You to respond to my needs according to my will rather than Thy will. Grant me the Grace of humility so that I will seek Your way in my life. Thank You for always loving me. Amen