



Daily Reflections

May 10, 2018

Scripture

John 16: 16-20

Jesus said to his disciples:

"A little while and you will no longer see me,
and again a little while later and you will see me."

So some of his disciples said to one another,
"What does this mean that he is saying to us,
'A little while and you will not see me,
and again a little while and you will see me,'
and 'Because I am going to the Father'?"

So they said, "What is this 'little while' of which he speaks?
We do not know what he means."

Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them,
"Are you discussing with one another what I said,
'A little while and you will not see me,
and again a little while and you will see me'?"

Amen, amen, I say to you,
you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices;
you will grieve, but your grief will become joy."

Our Scripture Reflection

As Jesus continues His "Farewell Discourse" at the Last Supper, He prophesies to His disciples that at His passion those who are "of the world", the non-spiritual realm of living, will rejoice at His suffering and death. But those who

love Him and who are born "from above" will rejoice...and they did when He appeared to them on Easter (John 20: 20).

Food for your Journey

Researchers at the University of California-San Diego [have] reported that the human brain may be hard-wired to hear the voice of heaven in what [they] said was the first effort to directly address the neural basis of religious expression.

The scientists emphasized that their findings in no way suggest that religion is simply a matter of brain chemistry. "These studies do not in any way negate the validity of religious experience or God," the team said. "They merely provide an explanation in terms of brain regions that may be involved."

Craig Kinsely, an expert in psychology and neuroscience at the University of Richmond in Virginia, said, "There is a quandary of whether the mind created God or God created the mind. This is going to shake people up, but (any conclusion) is very premature."

The UC-San Diego researchers studied three patients, all of whom displayed the unusual mystical preoccupation's and profound religious feelings of people whose epilepsy affects the temporal lobe.

"These are people who during seizures will say they see God," Vilayanur Ramachandran, senior scientist and director of the center for brain and cognition at UC-San Diego, said. "They will say that they feel a union with the universe, a sudden sense of enlightenment, or that they feel at peace with God." -- Robert Lee Hotz, Los Angeles Times.

Hard-wired, or Spirit-wired, to hear the voice of heaven?

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Being united to You and experiencing Your Holy Presence bring me great joy. Through my prayers and the good I do for others, keep me ever close to You. Amen