



Daily Reflections

May 17, 2018

Scripture

Acts 22:30; 23: 6-11

Wishing to determine the truth about why Paul was being accused by the Jews, the commander freed him and ordered the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin to convene. Then he brought Paul down and made him stand before them. Paul was aware that some were Sadducees and some Pharisees, so he called out before the Sanhedrin, "My brothers, I am a Pharisee, the son of Pharisees; I am on trial for hope in the resurrection of the dead." When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the group became divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection or angels or spirits, while the Pharisees acknowledge all three. A great uproar occurred, and some scribes belonging to the Pharisee party stood up and sharply argued, "We find nothing wrong with this man. Suppose a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?" The dispute was so serious that the commander, afraid that Paul would be torn to pieces by them, ordered his troops to go down and rescue Paul from their midst

and take him into the compound.

The following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Take courage. For just as you have borne witness to my cause in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness in Rome."

Our Scripture Reflection

Our Scripture reveals some interesting parallels between the Passion of Jesus in the Gospels and the Passion of Paul in Acts. Paul's teaching and speeches were a cause for division between the various Jewish groups as Jesus' teaching and speeches had been. Likewise, some of the Jews found Paul innocent of wrongdoing as Pilate, Herod and some of the Jews had found Jesus innocent in the Gospels. Please note: At the beginning of Acts (1:8) the Risen Lord before ascending to Heaven tells the eleven Apostles that they are to be His witnesses "to the ends of the earth" (Rome). Notice where the Lord tells Paul he is to go as His witness.....Amazing!

Food for your Journey

It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are.

--E.E. Cummings.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Lord Jesus, Help me to live out my calling to be Your witness as did Paul. When my work is difficult or causes me to become anxious, give me courage and keep me focused on You. Amen