



Daily Reflections

May 29, 2018

Scripture

1 Peter 1: 10-16

Beloved:

Concerning the salvation of your souls
the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours
searched and investigated it
investigating the time and circumstances
that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated
when it testified in advance
to the sufferings destined for Christ
and the glories to follow them.

It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you
with regard to the things that have now been announced to you
by those who preached the Good News to you
through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven,
things into which angels longed to look.

Therefore, gird up the loins of your mind, live soberly,
and set your hopes completely on the grace to be brought to you
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Like obedient children,
do not act in compliance with the desires of your former ignorance
but, as he who called you is holy,
be holy yourselves in every aspect of your conduct,
for it is written, Be holy because I am holy.

Our Scripture Reflection

There were some in Peter's community who were questioning if they had made the right decision by converting to the Christian faith. Peter calls them to "gird up the loins of their mind", or in other words, to be strong, faithful and focused. Satan always temps us and makes us question our faith during challenging times. Peter's teaching to his community is important for us today. We have a sublime calling...to "Be Holy because I am (God) is holy."

Food for your Journey

I was riding my bike down a street when I turned a corner. An endless, gray pavement that stretched out to meet the drab curb and dingy sidewalk greeted me. Running alongside the walk was a dusty patch of earth that piled up against a beige wall. Then, into this colorless picture an absurd addition intruded itself. Atop the wall and spilling down its side was a vibrant swath of fuchsia flowers.

Suddenly the boring became breathtaking. The dismal became dynamic. The mundane became magnificent. Like a cup of cool water in a desert, a sudden breeze on a stifling night, a rainbow as the storm clouds part, the unexpected appearance of something grand caused my heart to skip a beat.

Isn't life often like that? Think about it.

You're experiencing one of those days when you're tired of yourself, and then someone steps into your landscape and plants words of encouragement. The person values you, and you begin to bloom. Or your work has become a drag, and you think if you have to file one more useless paper, change one more messy diaper, or listen to one more grumbling client, you're going to scream. Then you receive a promotion, the baby asks to go potty, and the client becomes your husband.

God tends to use blah settings to display marvels. We mustn't give up when we experience a succession of gray days and beige encounters. Some stunning surprise awaits us around the next bend.

—Patsy Clairmont, *The Women of Faith Daily Devotional* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2002), 127.

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, You are my rock, and I run to You today believing that You will lift up my heavy arms, that You will fuel me for the tasks You have given me, and that Your joy will completely consume the weakness of my life and make me strong again. I don't want to stay grounded, crippled by limitations and failed attempts. I'm tired of feeble efforts. Lord, I want to mount up with wings like an eagle and not just fly. I want to soar. Amen