



Daily Reflections

July 12, 2018

Scripture

Matthew 10: 7-15

Jesus said to his Apostles:

“As you go, make this proclamation:

‘The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.’

Cure the sick, raise the dead,
cleanse the lepers, drive out demons.

Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.

Do not take gold or silver or copper for your belts;

no sack for the journey, or a second tunic,
or sandals, or walking stick.

The laborer deserves his keep.

Whatever town or village you enter, look for a worthy person in it,
and stay there until you leave.

As you enter a house, wish it peace.

If the house is worthy,

let your peace come upon it;

if not, let your peace return to you.

Whoever will not receive you or listen to your words

go outside that house or town and shake the dust from your feet.

Amen, I say to you, it will be more tolerable

for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment
than for that town.”

Our Scripture Reflection

Jesus sends His Apostles out on an incredible mission. They are empowered to do many wonderful things BY HIS AUTHORITY. Apart from Him they can do nothing. He warns them that they will encounter rejection. They are to deal with these situations by respecting the freedom of the person who rejects the Gospel but also by making a public sign which indicates their error. The hope is that they might see the sign and change. If not, they face eternal damnation.

Food for your Journey

Gerald G. May, practicing psychiatrist and professor, begins his book *Addiction and Grace* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1988) with this bold theological insight:

"I am convinced that all human beings have an inborn desire for God. Whether we are consciously religious or not, this desire is our deepest longing and our most precious treasure ... Regardless of how we describe it, it is a longing for love. It is a hunger to love, to be loved, and to move closer to the Source of love. This yearning is the essence of the human spirit" (1).

--As quoted by John M. Buchanan,

"For the Love of God,"

20 September 1992,2.

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious Lord, By virtue of my Baptism and with the help of Your Grace, You empower me to witness to You and Your Gospel. Help me to be faithful and true to Your Holy Word. May I also strive to witness to You by the way I live the Gospel I preach. Amen