



Daily Reflections

July 17, 2018

Scripture

Matthew 11: 20-24

Jesus began to reproach the towns where most of his mighty deeds had been done, since they had not repented.

“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!

For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes.

But I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you.

And as for you, Capernaum:

Will you be exalted to heaven?

You will go down to the nether world.

For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

But I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.”

Our Scripture Reflection

There is an irony embedded in our Lord's words in today's Gospel text. Chorazin and Bethsaida were Jewish towns whose citizens refused to respond to Jesus' call to repentance. On the other hand, Tyre and Sidon were Gentile,

that is, “pagan” towns whose citizens responded to Jesus’ call with immediacy. Jesus went to His own people first and they rejected Him. They will face a harsh judgment when His Kingdom comes.

Food for your Journey

If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.

—C.S. Lewis.

God’s hard instructions are never his last words to us, for the woe, the waste and the tears of life belong to its interlude, not its finale.

—F.B. Meyer.

A Prayer from the Heart

Lord Jesus, I acknowledge my sins before You and beg for Your forgiveness. Teach me Your ways and help me live as the person You created me to be. Amen