



Daily Reflections

July 31, 2018

Scripture

Matthew 13: 36-43

Jesus dismissed the crowds and went into the house.

His disciples approached him and said,

"Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man,
the field is the world, the good seed the children of the Kingdom.

The weeds are the children of the Evil One,
and the enemy who sows them is the Devil.

The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire,
so will it be at the end of the age.

The Son of Man will send his angels,
and they will collect out of his Kingdom
all who cause others to sin and all evildoers.

They will throw them into the fiery furnace,
where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.

Then the righteous will shine like the sun
in the Kingdom of their Father.

Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Our Scripture Reflection

So often it seems that evil has the upper hand in our world but it doesn't. Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel text that His Father is always and ultimately in control. We must keep this in mind especially during those times when we or those we love are effected by evil.

Food for your Journey

Richard Allen Farmer is a professor at Gordon College and a much-sought-after motivational speaker. He tells this story:

"When I was a youngster, probably in my 10th or 11th year, my grandparents bought us a small plastic cartoon projector as a Christmas present. Bringing a couple of reels of black and white cartoons, Pop taught me how to thread the projector. He patiently demonstrated how to bend the film around the sprockets and thread it into the take-up reel. After one demonstration, Pop said, 'Now you try it.' I threaded the projector correctly and I will never forget his words: 'I have the smartest grandson in the world!'

"Years later, I asked Pop if he remembered that incident. He didn't, but I did! For all the years following that day until now, I have thought I was bright, skillful, teachable, quick to catch on. I would probably also have remembered if Pop had said, 'I have the dumbest grandson in the world.' And my life might have demonstrated my belief.

"What memorable phrases are you depositing in your mind, to be trapped there for years to come? ..."

-Richard Allen Farmer,

It Won't Fly If You Don't Try: Or, How to Let Your Creative Genius Take Flight
(Portland, Ore.: Multnomah, 1992), 209-210.

A Prayer from the Heart

Heavenly Father, There is so much pain and hurting in the world, and there is so much love and goodness as well. Please send Your holy Angels to watch over me and my family. Help me, Father, to build on the Good by doing an

act of kindness, no matter how small, this day. May I make a difference in one person's life and reveal Your love to them. Amen