



# Daily Reflections

**August 30, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 24: 42-51**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

Be sure of this:

if the master of the house

had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,

he would have stayed awake

and not let his house be broken into.

So too, you also must be prepared,

for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.

"Who, then, is the faithful and prudent servant,

whom the master has put in charge of his household

to distribute to them their food at the proper time?

Blessed is that servant whom his master on his arrival finds doing so.

Amen, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property.

But if that wicked servant says to himself, 'My master is long delayed,'

and begins to beat his fellow servants,

and eat and drink with drunkards,

the servant's master will come on an unexpected day

and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely

and assign him a place with the hypocrites,

where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

Jesus uses a somewhat frightening imagery to describe the coming of the Kingdom of God. It will be like a thief who breaks into your home unexpectedly at night. You do not know when it might happen. The disciple is not to be anxious about the end of time. Rather, a true disciple is alert, aware and doing the work assigned to him or her, and therefore, ready to receive the Lord of glory when He comes.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Life is not hurrying  
on to a receding future,  
nor hankering after  
an imagined past.  
It is the turning  
aside like Moses to the miracle  
of the lit bush, to a brightness  
that seemed as transitory as your youth  
once, but is the eternity that awaits you.

--R. S. Thomas, *Later Poems 1972-1982* (London: Macmillan, 1983), 81.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, You have entrusted me with work to do, especially the work of helping the least in Your Kingdom. Keep me focused on my labors. Help me to do my best so that I will be ready to receive You with Joy when You come to take me home. Amen