



Daily Reflections

September 12, 2018

Scripture

Luke 6: 20-26

Raising his eyes toward his disciples Jesus said:

"Blessed are you who are poor,
for the Kingdom of God is yours.

Blessed are you who are now hungry,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who are now weeping,
for you will laugh.

Blessed are you when people hate you,
and when they exclude and insult you,
and denounce your name as evil
on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice and leap for joy on that day!

Behold, your reward will be great in heaven.

For their ancestors treated the prophets
in the same way.

But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

But woe to you who are filled now,
for you will be hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will grieve and weep.

Woe to you when all speak well of you,

for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way."

Our Scripture Reflection

Whereas Matthew has 9 positive Beatitudes in his Gospel, Luke has 4 Beatitudes and counters them with 4 curses or "Woes." And what is the purpose of this most important teaching of Jesus? They are Be-attitudes, directions to a lifestyle that will bring us to serenity and peace so that we can live as Jesus wants us to live. The Beatitudes are the doorway that leads one to humility, the most important virtue.

Food for your Journey

There is no situation I can get into that God cannot get me out. Some years ago I was learning to fly. My instructor told me to put the plane into a steep and extended dive. I was totally unprepared for what was about to happen. After a brief time the engine stalled, and the plane began to plunge out of control. It soon became evident that the instructor was not going to help me at all. After a few seconds, which seemed like eternity, my mind began to function again. I quickly corrected the situation. Immediately I turned to the instructor and began to vent my fearful frustrations on him. He very calmly said to me, "There is no position you can get this airplane into that I cannot get you out of. If you want to learn to fly, go up there and do it again." At that moment God seemed to be saying to me, "Remember this. As you serve Me, there is no situation you can get yourself into that I cannot get you out of. If you trust me, you will be all right." That lesson has been proven true in my life many times over the years.

—James Brown

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Thank You for expressing Your desires for my life through Your Beatitudes. Please pour Your Grace upon me so that I can live them to the full. May I experience the Peace that only Your way can give. Amen