



Daily Reflections

November 18, 2018

Scripture

Mark 13: 24-32

'But in those days, after that time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will not give its light, the stars will come falling out of the sky and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

And then they will see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.

And then he will send the angels to gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of the sky.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near.

So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, right at the gates.

In truth I tell you, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place.

Sky and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

Our Scripture Reflection

Why are we so troubled and anxious when we ponder the end of time? Each time we pray the Lord's Prayer we say, "Thy Kingdom come." Do we really mean that request? Then why do we get so nervous about it? We become so comfortable in this life. We enjoy it so much that we forget as Mom always said, "Son, we are just passing through." Please pay special attention to our petition for the coming of the Lord's Kingdom every time you pray His prayer. If He and His way are at the center of our lives, what do we have to fear?

Food for your Journey

The following saying hangs framed on my office wall: "Do one thing each day that scares you."

Standing at my office door, I know the challenges hidden in innocent-looking stacks of paper, a computer that will deliver e-mails (pertinent and not), and a keyboard that won't enter a book manuscript without my aid. Some days it takes courage just to walk in.

Yesterday I called a disgruntled woman. I was scared because I knew it wasn't going to be pretty. But it was the right thing to do. "Okay, Lord, this is my one-thing-that-scares-me opportunity for today. As I lifted the receiver, I whispered, "I'm depending on you."

-Ruth Koch, "One scary thing," Rev., May-June 2000, 41.

A Prayer from the Heart

Lord, Keep me focused on Your desires for me. You love me and want me to spend eternal life with You in Heaven one day. Help me to make Your work my priority. May I never lose sight of the fact that the most important gift I have in this life is my faith in You. Amen