



Daily Reflections

June 30, 2019

Scripture

Luke 9: 51-62

When the days for Jesus' being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him.

On the way they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his reception there, but they would not welcome him because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem.

When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?"

Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they journeyed to another village. As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

Jesus answered him,

"Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

And to another he said, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father."

But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead.

But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

And another said, "I will follow you, Lord,

but first let me say farewell to my family at home."

To him Jesus said, "No one who sets a hand to the plow and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God."

Our Scripture Reflection

Verse 51 of today's Gospel reading is most important...."He resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem." And with that statement Jesus' begins an almost ten chapter journey (9:51-19:28) from Galilee in the north to Jerusalem, the city of destiny, in the south. All the while He travels, He teaches and preaches. Why Jerusalem? It's the Holy City, the place where Jesus will suffer, die, be raised...its the place where He will ascend to the right hand of the Father and where with the Father, He will send the Holy Spirit upon the early Church. Luke records a picture of an absolutely resolute Lord and Savior who will not be deterred by anyone or any thing. His mission is to die for our salvation and He will not stop until His victory is complete. That's the kind of Savior Who loves us! How can we anything but profoundly grateful?

Food for your Journey

Faith is a terribly caustic substance, a burning acid. It puts to the test every element of my life and society; it spares nothing. It leads me ineluctably to question my certitudes, all my moralities, beliefs and policies. It forbids me to attach ultimate significance to any expression of human activity. It detaches and delivers me from money and the family, from my job and my knowledge. It's the surest road to realizing that "the only thing I know is that I don't know anything."

--Jacques Ellul, *Living Faith: Belief and Doubt in a Perilous World*, trans. Peter Heinegg (Harper & Row, 1983), 111.

"Lead me, follow me, or get out of my way." --Gen. George Patton, U.S. Army (1885-1945).

Don't make excuses, make good.

--Unknown.

He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.

--Benjamin Franklin.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, Your Son Jesus gave everything for my salvation. Help me to be profoundly grateful for His sacrifice. May I show my gratitude by humbly living His Gospel. In doing so may I draw people to Him. Amen