Matthew 10: 7-15
Jesus said to his Apostles:
"As you go, make this proclamation: 'The Kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, drive out demons. Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give. Do not take gold or silver or copper for your belts; no sack for the journey, or a second tunic, or sandals, or walking stick. The laborer deserves his keep. Whatever town or village you enter, look for a worthy person in it, and stay there until you leave. As you enter a house, wish it peace. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; if not, let your peace return to you. Whoever will not receive you or listen to your words—go outside that house or town and shake the dust from your feet. Amen, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town."
Our Scripture Reflection

We often think of the Kingdom of God from an exclusively futuristic perspective...the Kingdom to come. And while there certainly is a future dimension to the Kingdom, there is also a very real, present dimension to it as well. In Luke 11: 20 we read that Jesus said to the crowd: “If it is by my finger that I cast our demons then the Kingdom of God is upon you.” The Apostles knew that every time they witnessed to Jesus, every act of teaching, healing, forgiving, exorcising that they did in His name, revealed the presence of the Kingdom in their midst AT THAT MOMENT.

Food for your Journey

C.S. Lewis had it right: "If you read history you will find that the Christians who did the most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English evangelicals who abolished the slave trade, all left their mark on earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this one. Aim at heaven and you will get earth 'thrown in.' Aim at earth and you will get neither."

--Cal Thomas, "Not of this world," Newsweek, March 29, 1999, 60.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, I pray, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven! And Lord, help me to foster the coming of Your Kingdom through my prayer and works of compassion towards those in need. Amen