October 1, 2019

Scripture

When the days for Jesus to be 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.

Our Scripture Reflection

The opening verse of today’s scripture (51) is the most important in the entire Gospel in terms of understanding why Our Lord came into this world. “He resolutely determined to journey”: Jesus was sent by His Father for a mission and that mission was to save us from eternal death due to our sins. NOTHING...no thing, no one, will deter Him from what He was sent to do. Verse 51 begins a long journey narrative that will go all the way to 19:28 whereby Jesus travels from Galilee in the north to Jerusalem, the city of His destiny, in the south. As He travels He teaches us each step of the way. If you wonder what Jesus expects of you as His disciple, then get on the road with Him...I can assure you, the journey is not crowded!

Food for your Journey
"Followers" is a hot topic right now, because it's crucial to the success of bloggers and tweeters. If you're writing a blog, or hosting a blog, you want to have as many "followers" as possible. That's why one can find so many articles online about how to increase your "followship." Or, if you're on Twitter, you'd like to have people who are reading your posts.

Facebook is slightly different because rather than "followers," Facebook has "friends" which usually include people you don't know that well, and some you perhaps have not seen since you were in high school or college.

Do you suppose Jesus is also concerned about the problem of "followers"? Is it possible that Jesus also has followers he doesn't even recognize? These would be people who think that being linked up with Jesus, linking to his Twitterfeed, or reading his blog (Bible) is probably a good idea, but truth be told, they're people who are not really into Jesus. And Jesus is like, "Hey, who are you anyway?!! I don't know you!" Following Jesus is not the same as clicking on Jesus, or hitting the "like" link. Means a lot more than that.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I love You and I want to follow You but I seem to get distracted and frustrated, especially when the going gets tough. Rather than give up, Lord please give me the Grace to do one good thing each day for Your glory. By starting small and increasing my daily efforts, may I experience the joy that comes from being Your disciple. Amen