November 12, 2019

Scripture

Luke 17:7-10
Jesus said to the Apostles:
"Who among you would say to your servant
who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field,
'Come here immediately and take your place at table’?  
Would he not rather say to him,
'Prepare something for me to eat.
Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink.
You may eat and drink when I am finished’?
Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded?
So should it be with you.
When you have done all you have been commanded, say,
'We are unprofitable servants;
we have done what we were obliged to do.’"

Our Scripture Reflection

Since we do not live in a country where slavery exists (legally) it will be difficult to appreciate
Our Lord’s words in today’s Gospel. A master would NEVER have waited on his slave or place
his/her needs before his own. A slave was property who, was required to be at the beck and call
of the master. His/her mind and will, were to be identical to that of his/her master. In a manner
that was sure to have gotten the attention people in His day, Jesus described the disciple as
one who must be totally obedient to the will of His Heavenly Father. And when he/she is, expect
no trophies, smelly stickers or plaques. Why? Because he/she is simply living out their duty as
disciples.

Food for your Journey
Sometimes, our thirst to applaud and give recognition becomes bizarre. Catherine Walsh, writing about the Jonesboro, Arkansas, school shootings, reports: "When shooting November 12, 2019

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Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

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Sometimes, our thirst to applaud and give recognition becomes bizarre. Catherine Walsh, writing about the Jonesboro, Arkansas, school shootings, reports: "When shooting started in the schoolyard of Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, Arkansas, on March 24, some students thought the popping sound was just noise from nearby construction, reported the New York Times (3/29). 'And even as people fell, others thought it was a drama group acting out a play and eerily, began applauding,' the newspaper said."

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, You did not deem equality with Your Father as something to be grasped at. Rather, You took the form of a slave and gave Your life completely to Him. Help me to understand and to live Your example of perfect humility so that I can become holy. Amen.

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