



Daily Reflections

May 27, 2020

Scripture

John 17:11-19

Lifting up his eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed, saying:

“Holy Father, keep them in your name
that you have given me,

so that they may be one just as we are one.

When I was with them I protected them in your name that you gave me,

and I guarded them, and none of them was lost

except the son of destruction,

in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you.

I speak this in the world

so that they may share my joy completely.

I gave them your word, and the world hated them,

because they do not belong to the world

any more than I belong to the world.

I do not ask that you take them out of the world

but that you keep them from the Evil One.

They do not belong to the world

any more than I belong to the world.

Consecrate them in the truth.

Your word is truth.

As you sent me into the world,

so I sent them into the world.

And I consecrate myself for them,

so that they also may be consecrated in truth.”

Our Scripture Reflection

Exodus 20:7 is a commandment which states, “You shall not take the name of the Lord Thy God in vain.” What does this mean? In Jewish thought, a name is not merely an arbitrary designation, a random combination of sounds. The name conveys the nature and essence of the thing named. It represents the history and reputation of the being named.

In ancient religious thought, the name was thought to embody the very Presence and power of God.

In today’s Gospel passage Jesus prays, “Holy Father, keep them in Your name.” Jesus prays that after He is taken up to Heaven, His disciples will remain faithful to God, as He was faithful, and will be sheltered from the power of Satan by the holy name as well. He is always thinking about those whom He loves.

Food for your Journey

Christians were never meant to be normal. We’ve always been holy troublemakers, we’ve always been creators of uncertainty, agents of dimension that’s incompatible with the status quo; we do not accept the world as it is, but we insist on the world becoming the way that God wants it to be. And the Kingdom of God is different from the patterns of this world.

—Jacques Ellul, *The Meaning of the City* (Wipf and Stock, 2011).

A Prayer from the Heart

Holy Father, I praise Your Name! Thank You for calling me to be Your witness. Through my words and actions this day, may I bring glory to Your most Holy Name. Amen