



Daily Reflections

August 14, 2020

Scripture

Matthew 19:3-12

Some Pharisees approached Jesus, and tested him, saying, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any cause whatever?" He said in reply, "Have you not read that from the beginning the Creator made them male and female and said, For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, man must not separate." They said to him, "Then why did Moses command that the man give the woman a bill of divorce and dismiss her?" He said to them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. I say to you, whoever divorces his wife (unless the marriage is unlawful) and marries another commits adultery." His disciples said to him, "If that is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry." He answered, "Not all can accept this word, but only those to whom that is granted. Some are incapable of marriage because they were born so; some, because they were made so by others; some, because they have renounced marriage for the sake of the Kingdom of heaven.

Whoever can accept this ought to accept it.”

Our Scripture Reflection

In this all important scripture passage, Jesus sets down, clearly and without reservation His Divine teaching on Holy Matrimony aka: Christian Marriage.

Marriage is a Divinely willed covenantal institution between one man and one woman for life. No other combination of human created relationship is worthy of the dignity given Holy Marriage.

Food for your Journey

In everything worth having, even in every pleasure, there is a point of pain or tedium that must be survived, so that the pleasure may revive and endure. The joy of battle comes after the first fear of death; the joy of reading Virgil comes after the bore of learning him; the glow of the sea-bather comes after the icy shock of the sea bath; and the success of the marriage comes after the failure of the honeymoon.

—G.K. Chesterton, “What’s wrong with the world,” in *The Collected Works of G.K. Chesterton*, vol. 4 (Ignatius Press, 1986), 69.

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious Father, Please watch over and protect all men and women who work hard to live the Sacrament of Marriage. May they always depend upon You as their Rock and strength. Amen