



Daily Reflections

November 19, 2020

Scripture

Luke 19:41-44

As Jesus drew near Jerusalem,
he saw the city and wept over it, saying,
“If this day you only knew what makes for peace—
but now it is hidden from your eyes.
For the days are coming upon you
when your enemies will raise a palisade against you;
they will encircle you and hem you in on all sides.
They will smash you to the ground and your children within you,
and they will not leave one stone upon another within you
because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”

Our Scripture Reflection

Before entering the Holy city Jesus pauses to pray a prayer of lament over the city. Why? They had not worked for peace. Or in other words, they did not have their spiritual lives in line with God and His desires.

The General Titus entered the city to issue the final crushing blows in 70 AD. The Jewish Zealot party had launched several offenses against the Romans but because of the size and power of the Roman army PLUS dissension among the Zealot soldiers, the city and Temple were leveled. What Jesus forecasted became a horrific reality.

Food for your Journey

The gospel isn't like an advertisement for a product we might or might not want to buy, depending on how we feel at the time. It is more like a command from an authority we would be foolish to resist. Caesar's messengers didn't go round the world saying, "Caesar is lord, so if you feel you need to have a Roman-empire kind of experience, you might want to submit to him."

- N.T. Wright, Paul for Everyone: Romans, Part 1: Chapters 1-8 (Westminster, 2005), 4-5.

A Prayer from the Heart

Gracious Lord, You wanted nothing more than our salvation and You gave everything to show Your desires. When we think we know better than You, we always manage to get ourselves in deep trouble. Lord, forgive our arrogance and self-centeredness and false pride. Make us humble and grateful for Your love. Amen