Daily Reflections

August 19, 2016

Scripture

Matthew 22:34-40
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees,
they gathered together, and one of them,
a scholar of the law, tested him by asking,
"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"
He said to him,
"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your mind.
This is the greatest and the first commandment.
The second is like it:
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

Our Scripture Reflection

The scribes known as "scholars of the Law" often debated among themselves which of the 613 of their "laws" we're the weightiest or most

important. The scribe who approaches Jesus with his question about the Law does so with contempt, he is full of himself. That day, the scribe got more than what he bargained for. Jesus teaches him that all laws can be rolled up into only two: Love of God and Love of neighbor as self. That scribe left The Lord with a lot to think about and do.

Food for your Journey

In his book *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis wrote, "Do not waste time bothering whether you 'love' your neighbor; act as if you did. As soon as we do this, we find one of the great secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone, you will presently come to love him. If you injure someone you dislike, you will find yourself disliking him more. If you do him a good turn, you will find yourself disliking him less."

Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, You revealed the meaning of true love by Your life, suffering, and death. Make me a humble student, one who is willing to imitate You in word and deed. Amen.