

Daily Reflections

ADVENT

The Divine Intervention

December 10, 2016

Scripture

Matthew 17:9, 10-13

As they were coming down from the mountain, the disciples asked Jesus, "Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" He said in reply, "Elijah will indeed come and restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him but did to him whatever they pleased. So also will the Son of Man suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Our Scripture Reflection

Have you ever wondered how many times Jesus has spoken to you and you were oblivious to His voice or worse, chose not to listen? More often than not, when Our Lord speaks, His words run contrary to our thoughts and desires. His way is truly not our way, says God through the prophet Isaiah (55: 8-9). Yet we complain about being stressed out or feeling empty. No

wonder. Perhaps on this Advent day, it would be helpful to learn the meaning of Jesus's words: "Thy will be done."

Food for your Journey

Walter Brueggemann in his book, *The Prophetic Imagination* (Fortress Press, 1978), presented and defended the following hypothesis about prophecy: "The task of prophetic ministry is to nurture, nourish and evoke a consciousness and perception alternative to the consciousness and perception of the dominant culture around us." Following Brueggemann's logic, one would have to conclude that a prophet is essentially countercultural.

Most people wish to serve God — but in an advisory capacity only.

—Anonymous.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, I pray this day for peace, peace of heart and peace of mind. May I begin my prayer by seeking Your desires for me, first. Amen.