



Lenten

Reflections

The Divine Intervention

March 12, 2017

Scripture

Matthew 17: 1-9

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun

and his clothes became white as light.

And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them,
conversing with him.

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply,
"Lord, it is good that we are here.

If you wish, I will make three tents here,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

While he was still speaking, behold,

a bright cloud cast a shadow over them,

then from the cloud came a voice that said,

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased;
listen to him."

When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate

and were very much afraid.
But Jesus came and touched them, saying,
"Rise, and do not be afraid."
And when the disciples raised their eyes,
they saw no one else but Jesus alone.
As they were coming down from the mountain,
Jesus charged them,
"Do not tell the vision to anyone
until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Our Scripture Reflection

While on the Mountain top with three handpicked disciples, Jesus gives them a privileged glimpse of what it will be like on the other side of Calvary for Him. He will be radically transformed into glory. But this passage also says something very important for His faithful disciples. What happened to Jesus is meant to be our destiny as well, if we believe in Him and follow Him faithfully. What a promise that is!

Food for your Journey

Apropos creating change: The American and the Japanese corporate offices for a large multinational conglomerate decided to engage in a competitive boat race. Both teams practiced hard and long to reach their peak performance. On the big day they felt ready.

The Japanese team won by a mile.

Afterward, the American team was discouraged by the loss. Morale sagged. Corporate management decided that the reason for the crushing defeat had to be found. Therefore, a consulting firm was hired to investigate the problem and recommend corrective action.

The consultants' finding: The Japanese team had eight people rowing and one person steering. The American team had one person rowing and eight people steering. After a year of study and millions spent analyzing the problem, the firm concluded that too many people were steering and not enough were rowing on the American team.

So, as race day neared again the following year, the American team's management structure was completely reorganized. The new structure: four steering managers, three area steering managers and a new performance review system for the person rowing the boat to provide work incentive.

The next year, the Japanese won by two miles. Humiliated, the American office laid-off the rower for poor performance and gave the managers a bonus for discovering the problem.

Apropos transformation and change of heart: This guy gets a parrot but it's got a bad attitude and foul vocabulary.

He tries everything to change the bird's attitude. He attempts to clean up its talk. Nothing works.

Finally, for some insane reason and in a moment of desperation, he puts the parrot in the freezer.

For a few moments he hears the bird squawking, kicking and screaming. But suddenly, all is quiet.

He opens the freezer door. The parrot steps out and says, "I'm sorry that I offended you with my language and actions. I ask for your forgiveness."

The guy's astounded at the bird's change in attitude and is about to ask what changed him when the parrot continues, "By the way, may I ask -- what did the chicken do?"

A Prayer from the Heart

Precious Lord, Please help me to follow You faithfully because one day, I hope to spend Heaven with You forever. Amen.