

Daily Reflections

ADVENT

The Divine Intervention

December 14, 2016

Scripture

Luke 7:18-23

At that time,

John summoned two of his disciples and sent them to the Lord to ask,

"Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?"

When the men came to the Lord, they said,

"John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask,

'Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?'"

At that time Jesus cured many of their diseases, sufferings, and evil spirits; he also granted sight to many who were blind.

And Jesus said to them in reply,

"Go and tell John what you have seen and heard:

the blind regain their sight,

the lame walk,

lepers are cleansed,

the deaf hear, the dead are raised,

the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.

And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

Our Scripture Reflection

Today we have Luke's version of a Gospel passage we heard recently from Matthew. Jesus instructs John's disciples that He is, indeed, the One who was to come. His fulfillment of the old prophecy can be witnessed in Jesus' works. Two thousand years later the answer is the same. Yes, Jesus is the Messiah who was and who will come at the end of time. While we wait for that final coming His Presence can be seen in the lives of those who believe in Him and who carry out His compassionate works.

Food for your Journey

Are we truly following the Messiah who preached "good news to the poor"?

"Two-thirds of the world have yet to know the love of Christ. More than half of all people living today are poor, 500 million are orphans, 700 million live in slums, 100 million are supported by garbage, and 500 million people are on the verge of starvation at this very moment. Tragically, 80 percent of the world's poorest people live in the least evangelized parts of the world."

—Martin Ritsi, "Climbing to new heights," *OCMC magazine*, Spring 2001, Ocmc.org.

Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Please make me an instrument of Your mercy and peace to this troubled and broken world. Amen.