



June 10, 2018

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary: 89

Gospel MK 3:20-35

Jesus came home with his disciples. Again the crowd gathered, making it impossible for them even to eat. When his relatives heard of this they set out to seize him, for they said, "He is out of his mind." The scribes who had come from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul," and "By the prince of demons he drives out demons." Summoning them, he began to speak to them in parables, "How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand; that is the end of him. But no one can enter a strong man's house to plunder his property unless he first ties up the strong man.

Then he can plunder the house. Amen, I say to you, all sins and all blasphemies that people utter will be forgiven them. But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an everlasting sin." For they had said, "He has an unclean spirit." His mother and his brothers arrived. Standing outside they sent word to him and called him. A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you." But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."



Spiritual Reflection:

"I say this with all due reverence, but *humanly* speaking, Jesus' earthly life was a complete failure. He didn't overthrow the Roman government and usher in a glorious earthly kingdom as so many had hoped. He didn't make friends with the powerful and influential. He didn't win many to the truth of the Gospel. Quite the opposite. He was despised and rejected almost everywhere he went.

The once adoring crowds that followed him later turned away from him because his teaching was too hard to hear. Those in his hometown sneered at him and tried to throw him off a cliff. The religious leaders hated him and considered him a demon possessed blasphemer. One of his closest friends betrayed him for money, and the rest of his friends disowned and abandoned him. He was mocked, laughed at, and considered a madman. And the zenith of his life? It was being unjustly condemned to death, stripped naked, humiliated, nailed to a cross with common criminals, and buried in a grave that wasn't even his own." [Sam Guzman](#) – The Catholic Gentleman Blog

Spiritual Questions:

1. What does it mean to follow a failure?
2. How do you measure success?
3. Why do you follow Jesus?
4. What prevents the Pharisees from accepting Jesus?
5. What prevents you from accepting Jesus?