SCRIPTURE QUOTE TO MEMORISE:

....and for all things give thanks, this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Through him, God warned the arrogant and evildoers of the punishment that will come upon them. They will be annihilated, but those who respect His name will be duly rewarded. They will be safe.

Following his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul wrote again to them after several months. He had earlier told them Jesus will deliver them from the wrath to come in end times. Now, he wrote to encourage them. Paul told them to imitate him and his cohorts that everyone should work earnestly. He related that they had worked hard night and day and did not depend on their followers for subsistence even though it was their right to expect it from them. He did not mince his words for he told them that if anyone was unwilling to work, he should not be allowed to eat. What Paul may also have meant was that we have to diligently work on our faith in God, or else be left impoverished in spirit.

In the gospel, Jesus prophesized the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, marking the end of an era. He speaks to us about the end times and how we need to persevere. We need not be afraid of the devastation, destruction, betrayal and persecution that are to come. Political and religious institutions, family, wealth and everything else will pass away. But Jesus tells us not to worry in advance. It is simply the closing of one age and the beginning of another. This is the chance we get to bear witness to Him. He will give us the words and wisdom that will stump our enemies. We are the body of Christ and it is our mission as Christians to manifest His glory and His life in our testimony. We have Christ's promise that we will not perish. We just need to stand firm and salvation will be ours.

We are assured that the Lord comes to rule the earth with justice. \blacksquare

SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Malachi 3: 19-20; Psalm 97: 5-9;

2 Thessalonians 3: 7-12;

Luke 21: 5-19.

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SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION

MONTHLY FOCUS:

WORLD YOUTH DAY/YOUNG PEOPLE DAY (20th NOVEMBER)



ENDURE AND YOU WILL TRIUMPH

The readings today make us think about the end of the world. We are told that the day of the Lord is coming. We hear strong words from God in the first reading. During the time of Malachi, there had been evil customs practiced in the community.