

Commentary on the Gospel for Fri, Feb 18th 2022

Bunch of Losers

René Girard, a cultural anthropologist whose research led him to believe in the centrality of Christ and his Gospel, comments that the Gospel (and consequently Christian faith) can only fulfil itself by losing out in this world. In other words, Christians are called to be a bunch of losers—just as their Master was a colossal failure in the eyes of the world. This must give us pause. It is easier for us to be evangelized by the worldly gospel and take after the mundane ways of running parishes and ministries, by focusing on success, fame, honor. If everyone speaks well of us and we are universally loved, we need to stop on our tracks and ask ourselves: Am I really living the Gospel the way it should be lived? (cf. Lk 6:26). For, though we are in the world, we are called upon to live by the norms of another world and witness to it, which would necessitate that we lose our worldly lives for the sake of Him who alone matters.

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