

Daily Devotion For February 19, 2023

“Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”
-Luke 23:42-43

Eighty years ago today, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, stripping people of Japanese descent of their civil rights. That order and the subsequent actions carried out by the Federal Government represent one of the most shameful chapters in our Nation’s history. On this Day of Remembrance of Japanese American Incarceration during World War II, we remember that some 120,000 Japanese Americans, approximately two-thirds were charged with a crime without due process.

My mother was the same age as Sherry when she and other family members were interned in Poston, Arizona. For years, many Japanese Americans lived in harsh, overcrowded conditions, surrounded by barbed wire fences and armed guards. Not only did they lose their homes, businesses, property, and savings — they also lost their liberty, security, and the fundamental freedoms that belong to all Americans.

I often meet people who have never heard of the interment of those of Japanese ancestry being interned.

As humans, we are creatures of amnesia. Therefore, today as is every day an important day to remember history less we forget.

Thought For Today: On this day of Remembrance of Executive order 9066, we also remember that our Lord Jesus was also unjustly accused of a crime that led to his crucifixion and death.

Today’s Prayer Focus: Pray for those who continue to be bitter of the injustice they endured in the camps would find peace and healing through Jesus Christ. Continued prayers for those in need of God’s healing touch. Deo Volente.