

In 1415, the army of England's King Henry V won a decisive victory over French forces at Agincourt. Although they were badly outnumbered, the English prevailed in the battle which was later the center piece of William Shakespeare's famous historical play. After the great victory, Henry ordered that no celebrations be held in his honor but insisted that all the glory be given to God alone.

In today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Barnabas never thought it was their strength that achieved success in their work as missionaries, but only of what God had done for them "When they had called a meeting of the church they told them the story of all that God had done for them" ((Acts 14:27). God is always the main character who acts through his representatives. It was because of the divine initiative that the door of faith was opened to the Gentiles (Acts 14:27).

How much credit do we give to God for the aid the almighty has given us in the course of our life? How do we show our appreciation?

Before going to Washington to begin his first term as President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln told his closest friends and associates that without God's help he could not succeed.

As Christians we are simply his chosen instruments. The real hero of the Acts of the Apostles is the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life. Empowered by the Spirit, Paul and Barnabas triumphed in their missionary work. All the credit goes to the One who called them.