

A Reading from Job:

Then Job replied:

“Even today my complaint is bitter;  
his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning.

If only I knew where to find him;  
if only I could go to his dwelling!

I would state my case before him  
and fill my mouth with arguments.

I would find out what he would answer me,  
and consider what he would say.

Would he oppose me with great power?  
No, he would not press charges against me.

There an upright man could present his case before him,  
and I would be delivered forever from my judge.

But if I go to the east, he is not there;  
if I go to the west, I do not find him.

When he is at work in the north, I do not see him;  
when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him.

God has made my heart faint;  
the Almighty has terrified me.

Yet I am not silenced by the darkness,  
by the thick darkness that covers my face.” (NIV)

The Word of the Lord

*Job 23:1-9, 16-17*

22 *Deus, Deus meus*

- 1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? \*  
and are so far from my cry and from the words of my distress?
- 2 O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer; \*  
by night as well, but I find no rest.
- 3 Yet you are the Holy One, \*  
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
- 4 Our forefathers put their trust in you; \*  
they trusted, and you delivered them.
- 5 They cried out to you and were delivered; \*  
they trusted in you and were not put to shame.
- 6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, \*  
scorned by all and despised by the people.
- 7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; \*  
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,
- 8 “He trusted in the LORD; let him deliver him; \*  
let him rescue him, if he delights in him.”
- 9 Yet you are he who took me out of the womb, \*  
and kept me safe upon my mother’s breast.
- 10 I have been entrusted to you ever since I was born; \*  
you were my God when I was still in my mother’s womb.
- 11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near, \*  
and there is none to help.

- 12 Many young bulls encircle me; \*  
strong bulls of Bashan surround me.
- 13 They open wide their jaws at me, \*  
like a ravening and a roaring lion.
- 14 I am poured out like water; all my bones are out of joint; \*  
my heart within my breast is melting wax.
- 15 My mouth is dried out like a pot-sherd; my tongue sticks to the roof of my  
mouth; \*  
and you have laid me in the dust of the grave.

*Psalm 22:1-15*

A Reading from Hebrews:

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (NIV)

The Word of the Lord

*Hebrews 4:12-16*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Mark:

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good--except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, do not defraud, honor your father and mother.’ ” “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!” The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

Peter said to him, “We have left everything to follow you!” “I tell you the truth,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields--and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.” (NIV)

The Gospel of the Lord

*Mark 10:17-31*