

#1

A Reading from the Book of Job

Job answered and said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!

would that they were inscribed in a record:

That with an iron chisel and with lead

they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,

and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:

my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him,

And from my flesh I shall see God;

my innermost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

#2

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before people, indeed they be punished, yet is their hope of immortality.

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, and because God tried them and found them worthy of himself.

As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

Those who trust in him shall abide with him in love:

Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The Word of the Lord

#3

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age,

He who pleased God was loved; he who loved among sinners was transported---

Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul:

For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the **LORD**, therefore he sped home out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people say and did not understand, nor did they take this into account.

The Word of the LORD

#4

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On this mountain the Lord of hosts

will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain he will destroy

the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations;

he will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away

the tears from all faces;

The reproach of his people he will remove

from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said;

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the Lord for whom we looked;

let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The word of the Lord

Lamentations 3:17-26

#5

A reading from the book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived from peace;

I have forgotten what happiness is;

So I say "Gone is my glory,

and all that I had hoped for from the Lord."

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness

is wormwood and gall!

My soul continually thinks of it

and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,

his mercies never come to an end;

they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,

"therefore I will hope in him."

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,

to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly

for the salvation of the Lord.

The word of the Lord

#6

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

In those days, I, Daniel, mourned
and heard this word of the Lord:
At that time there shall arise
Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since nations began until that time.
At that time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;
Some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,
And those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.

The work of the Lord

2 Maccabees 12:43-46

#7

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

Judas, the ruler of Israel, took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.

In doing this he acted as he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for the in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

The word of the Lord

Book of Proverbs 31:10-11, 25-31

#8

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs 31:10-11, 25-31

When one finds a worthy wife,

her value is beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good and not evil, all the days of her life.

She is clothed with strength and dignity,

and she laughs at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom, and on her tongue is kindly counsel.

And does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children arise and call her blessed;

Her husband also, and he praises her.

Many are the women of proven worth, but you have excelled them all.

Charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting;

But a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors,

and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

#9

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.

A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

The Word of the Lord

#10

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah 43:1-3

By now thus says the Lord,
He who created you, He who formed you,
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters
I will be with you; and through the rivers,
They shall not overwhelm you.

For I am the Lord your God,
The Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

You are precious in my eyes,
And honored, and I love you.”

The word of the Lord