

## **A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, one reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#1 New Testament (1 Romans 5:5-11)

## **A Reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. But law came in, with the result that the trespass multiplied; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, just as sin exercised dominion in death, so grace might also exercise dominion through justification leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **The Word of the Lord**

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans**

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the father, we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin. For a dead person has been absolved from sin. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#4 (Romans 6:3-9) long version

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans**

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

## **The Word of the Lord**

#4a (Romans 6:3-4,8-9) short version

## **A Reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans**

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,  
but you received a spirit of adoption,  
through which we cry, "Abba. Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit  
that we are children of God  
and if children, then heirs,  
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,  
if only we suffer with him  
so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing  
compared with the glory to be revealed to us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation  
the revelation of the children of God;  
for creation was made subject to futility,  
not of it's own accord but because of the one who subjected  
it,  
in hope that creation itself  
would be set free from slavery to corruption  
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains  
even until now;  
and not only that, but we ourselves,  
who have the first fruits of the Spirit,  
we also groan within ourselves  
as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans**

If God is for us, who can be against us? God, who did not withhold Jesus God's own son, but gave Jesus up for all of us, will God not also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through God who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#6 (Romans 8:31-34)

## **A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans –**

No one of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother or sister? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me,  
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.

## **The Word of the Lord...**

#6 (Romans 14:7-12)

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Love is patient; love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish. Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not prone to anger; neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice in what is wrong but rejoices with the truth. There is no limit to love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. Love never fails. Prophecies will cease, tongues will be silent, knowledge will pass away. There are in the end three things that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.

### ***The Word of the Lord***

#20 (1Corinthians 13, 4-13)



## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death for “he subjected everything under his feet.” But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#8 (1 Corinthians 15:20-28 long version)

## **A Reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just as in Adam all die, so too Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

### **The Word of the Lord**

#8A (1 Corinthians 15:20-28 short version)

## **A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. Then the word that is written shall come about:

“Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Word of the Lord.**

## **A Reading from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

So we are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body whether good or evil.

### **The Word of the Lord**

## **A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians**

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

**The Word of the Lord**

## ***A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians***

We do not want you to be unaware, brother (and sisters), about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

### ***The Word of the Lord***

## ***A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians***

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

### ***The Word of the Lord***

#12 (Philippians 3:20-21)

## **A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to Timothy**

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory. This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him

we shall also live with him;

if we persevere

we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him

he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

he remains faithful,

for he cannot deny himself.

### **The Word of the Lord**



## ***A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy***

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

From now on, there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge will give me, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearing.

***The Word of the Lord***

## ***A Reading from the First Letter of John***

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

## ***The Word of the Lord***

#15 (1John 3:1-2)

## ***A Reading from the First Letter of John***

Love, then, consists in this:

not that we have loved God, but that God has loved us and has sent the Only Begotten to be offering for our sins.

Beloved,

if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for another.

No one has ever seen God.

Yet if we love one another,

God dwells in us,

and God's love is brought to perfection in us.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.

God is love,

and those who abide in love abide in God, and God in them.

***The Word of the Lord.***

## ***A Reading from the Book of Revelation***

I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and the scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their deeds. The Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

**The Word of the Lord**

***A reading from the book of Revelation:***

I , John, heard a voice from heaven say to me:  
“Write this down: Happy now are the dead who die in  
the Lord!”

The Spirit added, “Yes, they shall find rest from  
their labors, for their good works accompany them.”

***The Word of the Lord.***

## ***A Reading from the Book of Revelation***

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth has passed away, and the sea was no more.

I also saw the Holy City, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of the heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for a husband.

I hear a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. God will dwell with them and they will be God's people and God will always be with them.

God will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

***The Word of the Lord***